WHEREAS; Arab Americans make valuable contributions to every aspect of American society—including medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service, and culture—and add strength to the nation's democracy by embodying strong family values, a deep commitment to education, and an entrepreneurial spirit, among other virtues; and

WHEREAS; in Wisconsin, individuals and families of Arab descent share their rich cultures, traditions, and diversity of faith and creed with neighbors, friends, and communities across the state; and

WHEREAS; Arab American Wisconsinites serve as model citizens, dedicated public servants, and advocates for a peaceful, equitable, and diverse society; and

WHEREAS; unfortunately, the history of Arab Americans in the United States is often neglected or defaced by misconceptions, bigotry, and anti-Arab hate, and these injustices must be combatted through education, awareness, and meaningful action; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in denouncing all forms of hate, embracing diversity, celebrating the many contributions of Arab American communities across the state and country, and working towards a Wisconsin that is a safe, diverse, welcoming, and inclusive place for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as

## **ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State