WHEREAS; according to the World Health Organization (WHO), infertility is a global health issue affecting millions of people of reproductive age worldwide, including more than 40 million couples and more than 100 million individuals; and

WHEREAS; defined by the WHO and American Medical Association as a disease, infertility can affect anyone and does not discriminate based on race, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, or socioeconomic level; and

WHEREAS; all people challenged in their family-building journeys should have access to all family-building options, including medical treatments such as in vitro fertilization and third-party reproduction, yet cost, lack of or inadequate insurance coverage, and discrimination can present barriers for many in accessing the family building options they need; and

WHEREAS; members of the LGBTQ community, in particular, may face challenges when building their families, including the denial of fertility care and discrimination in the adoption and foster care systems; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated organizations and volunteers, healthcare professionals, and all affected individuals and families in raising awareness of infertility and working to eliminate the stigma that too often surrounds it along with all other barriers to family-building;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 23 through 29, 2023, as

NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

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 2023. | e at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 24th day of March |
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| TONY EVERS, Governor | |
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| By the Governor: | |
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| SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary | y of State |