WHEREAS; stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States, killing about 140,000 Americans, including over 2,500 Wisconsinites, each year; and

WHEREAS; a third of Americans are living with at least one of the most common controllable causes of stroke, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, and diabetes; and

WHEREAS; new and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of stroke when administered as soon as possible after symptom onset; and

WHEREAS; while they are largely preventable with a healthy lifestyle and adherence to prescribed medications, one in four stroke survivors have a second stroke; and

WHEREAS; we recognize the need for further research and education on stroke to advance prevention and treatment efforts; and

WHEREAS; it is critical that all Wisconsinites be able to recognize and act on the signs and symptoms of stroke, including the F.A.S.T. warning signs – face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, time to call 911 – and additional symptoms, such as sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially confined to one side of the body, confusion, trouble seeing out of one or both eyes, trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination, and severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin joins the American Stroke Association’s Together to End Stroke® initiative in encouraging all Wisconsinites and all Americans to manage their blood pressure, memorize and share the stroke warning signs, and call 911 at the first sign of stroke;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as

AMERICAN STROKE 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 11th day of May 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State