WHEREAS; necrotizing fasciitis (NF) is a rare condition involving the layers of tissue under the skin, often referred to as the “flesh eating disease” in popular media; and

WHEREAS; NF was first described within medical literature in 1883 by French dermatologist Jean Alfred Fournier; and

WHEREAS; the most common cause of NF is believed to be group A Streptococcus bacteria, although cases have been reported to be caused by other types of bacteria, including those naturally found within the intestines; and

WHEREAS; NF can occur in folks of all ages, but is commonly associated with surgical procedures and seen in folks with diabetes, kidney disease, atherosclerotic vascular disease, cancer, and hypertension; and

WHEREAS; on rare occasions, NF may develop following a fall, cut, tear, or other minor injury to the skin in an otherwise healthy individual; and

WHEREAS; when NF is suspected, it is critical to act fast, as prolonged infection can lead to serious complications and even death; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated advocates and organizations across our state in raising awareness of necrotizing fasciitis in the hope that increased research will lead to a better understanding of the disease and improved treatments; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as

NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS 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 10th day of May 2022.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State