STATE of WISCONSIN

OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, May Day, or International Workers’ Day, is a celebration of workers throughout the world that is observed annually on the first of May; and

WHEREAS, May Day commemorates the efforts of the working classes, in the United States and abroad, throughout the late 19th century to organize for improved workplace conditions and rights; and

WHEREAS, the beginning of May is a historically significant time period in the struggle for workers’ rights in the United States, and in Wisconsin specifically, as May 5 commemorates the anniversary of a deadly attack on demonstrators in the Bay View area of Milwaukee in 1886; and

WHEREAS, the state of Wisconsin recognizes that many rights and conventions that we often take for granted now—such as the eight-hour workday, worker’s compensation, and unemployment insurance—are owed to early labor activists, although the gender and racial pay gaps that persist in our state and throughout our country, among other challenges, offer a sobering reminder of how far we have yet to go towards achieving equal rights and fair wages for all workers; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is home to thousands of union members who are represented in countless trades and industries and, recently, workers from the food industry to the supply chain have seen major victories in their efforts to unionize, underscoring the critical and continued importance of protecting collective bargaining rights; and

WHEREAS, today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in celebrating our rich history of progressive labor activism and the numerous contributions that all workers make to our state’s cultural and economic livelihood;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2022, as

MAY DAY

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 25th day of April 2022.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State