

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that can cause inflammation, tissue damage, and pain throughout the body; and

WHEREAS; impacting approximately 1.5 million Americans, including 28,000 Wisconsinites according to the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, lupus is one of the most common autoimmune diseases in the United States; and

WHEREAS; while the immune system is typically the body’s defense against infections, for individuals with lupus, the immune system attacks healthy tissue resulting in damage to the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, brain, and any other body part or organ system; and

WHEREAS; the severity and symptoms of lupus vary from person to person, with symptoms ranging from arthritis and rashes to seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure; and

WHEREAS; lupus can affect anyone, however, the disease more commonly affects women of reproductive age and women of color; and

WHEREAS; lupus can be difficult to diagnose due to its wide range of symptoms and similarities to other diseases, and affected individuals can sometimes wait years before receiving a correct diagnosis; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals, medical professionals, and dedicated advocates and organizations across the state and country, including the Wisconsin chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America, in raising awareness of lupus and working towards better diagnoses, more advanced treatments, and a cure;

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

LUPUS 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 7th day of April 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State