WHEREAS; osteogenesis imperfecta (OI), also known as "brittle bone disease," is a genetic disorder characterized primarily by fragile bones that break easily; and

WHEREAS; according to MedlinePlus of the National Library of Medicine, approximately 25,000 to 50,000 Americans are affected by OI, with different types of the disorder ranging in severity from mild to life-threatening; and

WHEREAS; while OI is a disorder that a person is born with and has no cure, most affected individuals are able to lead healthy, productive lives with proper treatment and supportive care; and

WHEREAS; treatment of OI focuses on minimizing fractures, surgically correcting mobility or physical disabilities, reducing bone fragility, and maximizing independent function; and

WHEREAS; increased funding for education and research surrounding OI is needed to help find more effective treatments; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals and their families, along with dedicated advocates, medical professionals, and organizations across the state, including the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation, in spreading awareness of OI;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 6 through May 13 2023 as

## OSTEOGENESIS IMPERFECTA 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 at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State