WHEREAS; catalyzed in the early hours of June 28, 1969, the Stonewall Riots in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan, New York, marked a pivotal turning point in the fight for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) rights in the United States and laid the groundwork for June to be recognized as LGBTQ Pride Month in Wisconsin and nationwide; and

WHEREAS; members of the LGBTQ community in our state, across our nation, and around the world have collectively worked to overcome gender, race, sexuality, and economic adversity for generations, combating social stigma, demanding visibility and representation, and demonstrating incredible resilience; and

WHEREAS; over the past several decades, our state has taken critical steps toward achieving LGBTQ equity and equality, such as the implementation of our nation’s first law banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, the legalization of same-sex marriage, and the election of LGBTQ individuals to public offices at all levels of government, including the first openly LGBTQ woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and the first openly LGBTQ person elected to the U.S. Senate; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that, in the last year, there has been a significant increase in anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced in state legislatures throughout our country, including in Wisconsin, and as we honor hard-won liberties, we must commit to combatting hateful rhetoric and policies that target LGBTQ Wisconsinites—and LGBTQ kids, in particular—and continue working to ensure that all LGBTQ people are treated equitably and with dignity under law in our state and across our country; and

WHEREAS; in June 2019, the Rainbow Pride Flag—a symbol of LGBTQ pride—was flown above the Wisconsin State Capitol building for the first time in state history, and this year, for the first time, the Progress Pride Flag will be flown in recognition of the importance of keeping diversity, inclusion, and intersectionality at the forefront of LGBTQ equity efforts; and

WHEREAS; an iteration of the widely recognized Rainbow Pride Flag, the Progress Pride Flag was created to increase visibility and advocacy for marginalized communities within the LGBTQ community and includes additional stripes forming a chevron pattern that represent LGBTQ individuals of color and the transgender community, as well as those who are living with and who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS; this month, as we celebrate Pride Month in Wisconsin and raise a Pride Flag over our State Capitol for the fourth year in a row, we are reminded that every Wisconsinite deserves to stand boldly in their truth, without fear of persecution, judgement, or discrimination;

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

LGBTQ PRIDE 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 31st day of May 2022.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State