

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence, leaving countless friends, family members, and loved ones heartbroken and traumatized, and entire communities living in fear of experiencing or witnessing gun violence; and

WHEREAS; in 2022 alone, there have been more mass shootings than days in the year, with 230 mass shootings in which four or more people were shot or killed, leaving 256 dead and 996 injured as of May 31; and

WHEREAS; gun violence has serious implications for victims, survivors, and their communities, and includes, but is not limited to, gun suicides, gun homicides, domestic violence involving a firearm, officer involved shootings, and unintentional shootings; and

WHEREAS; as gun sales continue to set record highs, calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines grow more prevalent, and gun violence persists in our cities, with several communities throughout our state and country experiencing record high crime rates over the last several years, a widespread commitment to gun violence prevention in our country has never been more important; and

WHEREAS; no person should have to live in fear in their own home or at school, work, places of worship, movie theaters, grocery stores, or shopping malls, and protecting public safety in communities across Wisconsin requires acknowledging the pervasiveness of gun violence in our country, collaborating with affected individuals, groups, and stakeholders, and taking immediate and meaningful bipartisan action to address this pervasive issue; and

WHEREAS; more than 80 percent of Wisconsinites, including a majority of gun owners in our state, support the implementation of commonsense measures like universal background checks and extreme risk protection orders; and

WHEREAS; these commonsense policies—in addition to increasing investments in shared revenue and school funding, mental and behavioral health services and support, and community safety and violence prevention efforts, among other critical tools—can save lives and will help keep our schools, our streets, and our communities safe; and

WHEREAS; in January 2013, fifteen-year-old Hadiya Pendleton was shot and killed in a senseless act of gun violence in Chicago, and inspired by a group of her friends who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange, National Gun Violence Awareness Day and “Wear Orange” Weekend have been observed annually since 2015 to pay tribute to Hadiya and all other victims of gun violence in our country, as well as their loved ones; and

WHEREAS; by wearing orange and attending events today and throughout the weekend, all Wisconsinites and all Americans have the opportunity to raise awareness of gun violence and honor every life that it has taken;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 3, 2022, as

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

and June 3 through 5, 2022 as

“WEAR ORANGE” WEEKEND

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 1st day of June 2022.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR



By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State