

WHEREAS; Transverse Myelitis (TM) is a rare inflammatory disease that attacks the central nervous system and causes inflammation by targeting the nerve cell fibers and insulating the myelin of the spinal cord, resulting in severe and potentially fatal complications; and

WHEREAS; symptoms of TM include rapidly progressing muscle weakness or paralysis ascending the body, severe neurological pain, abnormal sensations in the back, extremities, and abdomen, breathing complications, sexual dysfunction, urinary retention, loss of bowel control, cognitive issues, spasticity, fatigue, and depression; and

WHEREAS; TM may occur in isolation, assumed to be a result of abnormal and excessive activation of an immune response against the spinal cord, or alongside other illnesses, such as viral and bacterial infections; and

WHEREAS; recovery from TM is difficult, requiring months of acute treatment and therapy, and data suggests that two-thirds of patients may be left with a moderate or severe degree of permanent disability; and

WHEREAS; despite an estimated 1,400 new cases diagnosed in the United States each year, TM is often overlooked, not diagnosed in a timely manner, or misdiagnosed entirely; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins Transverse Myelitis patients and advocates in spreading awareness of this life-altering neurological disorder and embracing hope that further scientific research and funding will lead to more accurate and timely diagnoses, and benefit all folks living with the condition;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 9, 2020, as

TRANSVERSE MYELITIS AWARENESS 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 26th day of May 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State