WHEREAS; aging and older adults are leaders, mentors, volunteers, and vital members of communities across our state who deserve to be treated with respect and live with dignity; and

WHEREAS; established by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization in 2006, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day aims to promote a better understanding of the abuse and neglect of older adults; and

WHEREAS; in 2020, more than 10,400 reports of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of Wisconsinites aged 60 and older were received by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and as the global population of aging and older adults continues to grow, including in Wisconsin, understanding the root causes of elder abuse and the best practices to mitigate its prevalence is critically important; and

WHEREAS; ageism and social isolation are major causes of elder abuse and preventing the abuse of older adults through maintaining and improving social supports like senior centers, in-home services, and accessible transportation will allow older adults to continue to live as independently as possible and contribute to the life and vibrancy of our communities; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated individuals and organizations in our state, throughout our country, and around the world in raising awareness, taking action to prevent and address elder abuse, and encouraging all people to recognize and celebrate older adults and their ongoing contributions to the success of our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 15, 2022, as

WORLD ELDER ABUSE 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 10th day of June 2022.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State