WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Civil Service system was established on June 17, 1905, when Governor Robert M. La Follette signed into law one of the earliest state-level civil service bills in the country; and

WHEREAS; for 115 years, the Wisconsin Civil Service system has ensured that public services are delivered with professionalism, efficiency, and integrity by highly qualified workers; and

WHEREAS; our Civil Service system promotes democratic values – such as equity, transparency, and public service – within state agencies, and was created to protect Wisconsinites from patronage, corruption, and excessive political interference; and

WHEREAS; based on the principle that state employees should be hired, promoted, and disciplined based on merit through fair and unbiased processes, our Civil Service system prioritizes the delivery of vital public services over partisan and political interest; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins the Association of Career Employees and the Coalition to Save Civil Service in recognizing the important contributions of our civil servants to the quality of public services enjoyed by folks across our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 17, 2020, as

WISCONSIN CIVIL SERVICE ANNIVERSARY 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 12th day of June 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State