

WHEREAS; World Refugee Day was first celebrated on June 20, 2001, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has a rich history of opening its doors to people of all backgrounds, experiences, and walks of life, and it is estimated that, over the last 20 years, our state has welcomed over 16,000 refugees from all over the world; and

WHEREAS; our state strives to always serve our refugee communities with respect and dignity, acknowledging the hardships they have encountered and recognizing their courage, sacrifice, and resilience; and

WHEREAS; in December 2019, Wisconsin issued written consent to the federal government to allow for continued refugee resettlement throughout our state, renewing our commitment to welcoming refugees into our communities as we have for decades; and

WHEREAS; we recognize the efforts of the International Institute of Wisconsin, Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Jewish Social Services of Madison, World Relief Fox Valley, and many other agencies working to provide services to our refugees as they navigate the resettlement process; and


WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin proudly joins all Wisconsinites in spreading awareness of the plight of the world's refugees, honoring our refugee communities, and supporting local agencies that serve refugees;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 20, 2020, as

WORLD REFUGEE 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 4th day of June 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State