WHEREAS; more than half of all adult Americans, including thousands of Wisconsinites, live with at least one chronic health condition, such as cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, and obesity; and

WHEREAS; chronic diseases are among the leading causes of death in the United States, resulting in approximately seven out of 10 deaths every year; and

WHEREAS; the combined costs of living with a chronic condition, taking into account medications, treatments, and co-payments, can cause extreme financial hardship and even lead to bankruptcy for many individuals and families; and

WHEREAS; while most chronic diseases have no cure, many are preventable and treatable with proper nutrition, physical activity, and overall healthy lifestyle choices; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes the racial disparities that persist statewide in both chronic disease morbidity and mortality, and reaffirms its commitment to addressing the structural factors that lead to poorer health outcomes for people of color in our state; and

WHEREAS; we acknowledge the necessity of eliminating barriers to access for healthcare and education, especially in our historically marginalized communities, in order to increase life expectancy, reduce healthcare costs, and improve quality of life for all Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins non-profit and disease support groups, and all Wisconsinites, in spreading awareness of the prevention, intervention, and treatment of chronic diseases;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim July 10, 2020, as

CHRONIC DISEASE 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 25th day of June 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State