

WHEREAS; comprising the Great Lakes region, Lake Erie, Lake Huron, Lake Ontario, Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, and the Saint Lawrence River contain more than 20 percent of the world’s surface fresh water and supply 56 billion gallons of water each day to nearly 50 million Americans and Canadians; and

WHEREAS; our state is bordered by Lake Michigan to the east and Lake Superior to the north, enabling thousands of folks – Wisconsinites and out-of-state visitors, alike – to experience the natural beauty of our approximately 1,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline; and

WHEREAS; the Great Lakes play an important role in sustaining Wisconsin’s biodiversity and are increasingly affected by pollution and climate change, requiring collaboration on key conservation strategies between local, tribal, and federal governments, organizations, individuals, and businesses throughout the region; and

WHEREAS; in the summer of 2019, we joined the Governors of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Pennsylvania in signing the Great Lakes 2020 Presidential Agenda to push for increased federal action in cleaning up the Great Lakes and ensuring safe, affordable drinking water for all residents of the region, among other provisions; and

WHEREAS; the Great Lakes enhance and sustain the quality of life of all Wisconsinites, connecting our great state to the global economy and providing countless opportunities for environmental stewardship, recreation, industry, agriculture, and much more; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms the pledge made in 2012 by the United States and Canada to work together towards “a healthy and prosperous Great Lakes region, in which the waters of the Great Lakes enhance the livelihoods of present and future generations”; and

WHEREAS; this occasion provides an opportunity for all Wisconsinites and all Americans to reflect on the majesty of the Great Lakes and the abundance of resources they provide, reify our commitment to concerted conservation efforts, and learn about their importance to Wisconsin’s economy and culture;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September 7, 2020, as

## **GREAT LAKES – SAINT LAWRENCE APPRECIATION DAY**

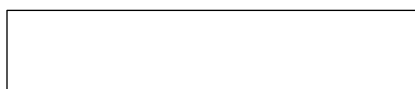
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state’s residents.

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 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State