

WHEREAS; the first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on September 5, 1882, in New York City and, in 1884, the first Monday in September was selected by the American Federation of Labor as the day for its annual observance; and

WHEREAS; in 1894, the United States Congress passed an act officiating the first Monday in September of each year as a legal holiday, initiating a tradition of paid time off for many American workers, along with a collection of parades and festivals celebrating workers and their families; and

WHEREAS; throughout our nation's history, workers and labor unions have contributed to vastly improved standards of work and living, as well as to the tremendous productivity of the American economy, and have been vital to our collective economic success and political democracy; and

WHEREAS; as Wisconsinites, we pride ourselves on our progressive roots and rich history of workers' rights activism, and we recognize that many rights and conventions that we often take for granted, such as the eight-hour workday, are owed to our early labor activists; and

WHEREAS; Labor Day presents all Wisconsinites, and all Americans, with the opportunity to celebrate and honor the resilience and dedication of workers and working families across our state and country, especially as workers have continued to carry our state throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and to reflect on the contributions of the labor movement – past and present – and the benefits of strong labor unions; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that laborers from all trades are treated with respect and dignity, are paid fairly, and receive recognition for their important work, and commends all workers and their families for their numerous contributions to our state's cultural and economic livelihood;

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

LABOR 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 September 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State