WHEREAS; state and national health data tell us that health disparities exist based on race – meaning that, for example, Black women are more likely than their white peers to die from heart disease, cancer, stroke, and complications of pregnancy and childbirth; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that these disparities in health outcomes are not the consequence of individual habits or poor choices, and that, if we want to improve the health and wellness of Black women, we must confront the need for increased access to quality healthcare and education in communities of color; and

WHEREAS; our state commends the organizations, like the Foundation for Black Women’s Wellness, that are doing the important work of addressing health disparities affecting Black women and girls by partnering with their communities to inform and inspire them to build and sustain healthy, wellness-centered lives; and

WHEREAS; organized by the Foundation for Black Women’s Wellness, Black Women’s Wellness Day is an annual health summit intended to promote the health and wellness of Black women and girls and to ensure they have the opportunity to make their own healthcare choices and live healthy, balanced, and thriving lives within their families, communities, and world; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to investing in Black women’s wellness and to taking action to make our state a more safe, nurturing, and empowering environment for Black women, girls, and families; and

WHEREAS; in the spirit of this year’s theme, “Thriving in a new world,” we wish all participants a successful event, especially as it transitions to a two-day format and virtual platform;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 18 through 19, 2020, as

BLACK WOMEN’S WELLNESS 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 17th day of September 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State