## STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has long been a leader in supporting safety programs at highway-rail grade crossings; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that railroad crashes are often more severe than highway collisions and are, in fact, 20 times more likely to result in death or serious injury; and

WHEREAS; we also recognize that many of these incidents and fatalities are preventable if rail safety practices are respected; and

WHEREAS; while significant progress has been made in informing folks across our country about incidents and fatalities related to dangerous behavior around railway tracks, greater public awareness about safety at railroad crossings is needed to save lives and prevent injuries; and

WHEREAS; Rail Safety Week is observed every September to raise public awareness of the potential dangers at highway-rail grade crossings and of trespassing on railway property; and

WHEREAS; practicing rail safety—which includes keeping in mind that trains appear to be further away and moving slower than they actually are, avoiding tunnels, bridges, and trestles designed solely for trains, and not trespassing on railway property—can save lives; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins Operation Lifesaver, Inc. and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in reminding all Wisconsinites of the importance of being smart and safe around railway property;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 20 – 26, 2021, as

## WISCONSIN RAIL SAFETY WEEK

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 2021.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Secretary of State

DOUGLAS LA LLETTE