

WHEREAS; women own over 11 million businesses in the United States, employing more than nine million individuals and generating over \$1 trillion in sales ever year; and

WHEREAS; the vast majority of women-owned businesses in the United States are small businesses, which benefit greatly from the resources and support provided by the United States Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership and Women's Business Centers; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to an estimated 144,000 women-owned businesses, representing more than one-third of our state's businesses, contributing over \$27 billion in total economic impact, and employing more than 168,000 workers; and

WHEREAS; although the number of women-owned businesses is increasing every year, women entrepreneurs—and women entrepreneurs of color, especially—continue to face barriers to opportunity, including inequitable access to responsible and fair capital, lack of business education resources, and discriminatory practices; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes the importance of supporting women-owned businesses throughout our state, and reaffirms its commitment to empowering women entrepreneurs to encourage economic growth, increase workforce vitality, promote dynamic innovation, and build strong communities; and

WHEREAS; women entrepreneurs and business owners contribute to our state's economic vitality, and as Wisconsin continues to bounce back from the unprecedented economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic, supporting women-owned businesses—and small businesses, in particular—has never been more important; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in reflecting on the contributions of women business owners, entrepreneurs, and executives across our state and country and in honoring their ongoing role in strengthening our economy and our workforce;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September 22, 2021, as

## **AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State