

WHEREAS; every year, roughly half a million babies are admitted to neonatal intensive care units, or NICUs, across the United States, including an estimated 11 percent of babies born in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; families of NICU babies often struggle to find resources, support, and education, and funding for research into the causes of a NICU stay as well as the holistic care of NICU families is vital; and

WHEREAS; this occasion provides an opportunity for all families whose lives have been affected by a NICU stay to share their stories, to honor the dedicated healthcare professionals who work in these units, and to be reminded that they are not alone by meeting others who have also been impacted; and

WHEREAS; every child has the right to grow up healthy and have access to the healthcare services and support they need to thrive, which is why NICUs are so essential; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins Project Sweet Peas and the National Perinatal Association in spreading awareness of the challenges faced by NICU babies and their parents, and increasing visibility of research that improves their quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 30, 2020, as

NICU AWARENESS 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 20th day of August 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State