WHEREAS, Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the integral role that Wisconsin workers with disabilities play in advancing Wisconsin's economy; and

WHEREAS, the engagement of Wisconsin businesses is key to a workforce system that encourages the full participation of all individuals who want to work; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin continually seeks to implement innovative approaches that help individuals with disabilities acquire gainful employment and economic independence, such as Project SEARCH, which has expanded to 27 sites statewide and provided workforce training to more than 900 individuals with disabilities over the last 10 years since Wisconsin's program began during the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's vocational rehabilitation program has helped nearly 40,000 individuals with disabilities reach their employment goals over the last 10 federal fiscal years through targeted services aligned with each consumer's employment goals; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's focus is on the value of hiring job seekers with disabilities, and raising awareness of the opportunities available to them in state and local government, as well as in the private-sector, so that all employers understand that job seekers with disabilities offer tremendous skills, abilities, and other qualities that benefit any company's bottom line and our state's economy; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin will continue to focus on providing an environment that encourages and promotes the creation of employment opportunities for all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 2019 as

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all our citizens.

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 13th day of September 2019.

[Signature]
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

[Signature]
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State