WHEREAS; breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among women in the United States and, by the end of this year, an estimated 5,120 new cases will have been diagnosed – and 720 people will have died of the disease – in 2020 in Wisconsin alone; and

WHEREAS; through research and advocacy, advances have been made in the fight against breast cancer, including an increased rate of early detection and a 98 percent five-year survival rate for localized breast cancer; and

WHEREAS; despite these advances, the breast cancer incidence rate for Black women, in particular, continues to rise and racial disparities in breast cancer mortality have become more pronounced over time, underscoring the need for increased access to quality healthcare and awareness in communities of color; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that disparities in health outcomes are not the consequence of individual habits or poor choices, and that all people are at a lower risk for breast cancer when they have the opportunity to benefit from access to healthy foods, routine health screenings, physical activity, and resources that help individuals to limit alcohol consumption and quit smoking; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, all Wisconsinites are reminded that mammograms and other preventative breast cancer screenings are the most effective ways to detect the disease early and increase one’s chances of successful treatment; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to building a healthcare system that works for everyone and joins all breast cancer survivors, all those who are battling the disease, their loved ones, and our state’s many dedicated healthcare workers in spreading awareness, committing to public education, and embracing hope for better diagnoses, treatments, and a cure;

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

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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 15th day of October 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State