WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes that it plays a vital role in identifying, protecting its residents from, and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have a significant impact on our individual and collective safety and privacy; and

WHEREAS; we acknowledge that critical infrastructure is increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, healthcare, and emergency response systems; and

WHEREAS; cybersecurity education and awareness are crucial for any individual or organization who connects to the internet, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, government agencies, educational institutions, and the home user; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, all Wisconsinites are reminded of the importance of monitoring their online accounts, being conscientious of what they share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing anti-virus programs and firewalls, and using mobile devices safely; and

WHEREAS; the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign – STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ – is implemented through a coalition of private companies, non-profits, government organizations, and academic institutions, and is dedicated to increasing the public’s understanding of cyber threats and empowering all Americans to better protect themselves from phishing, viruses, malware, financial loss, and loss of sensitive data; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to providing every individual and organization across our state with the resources and information necessary to stay safe online and connect with confidence;

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

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY 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 8th day of October 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State