

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

WHEREAS; our state continually seeks to implement innovative approaches that help individuals with disabilities find and maintain employment, such as Project SEARCH, which has provided workforce training to more than 1,100 youth and adults with disabilities since the program began during the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS; over the last ten federal fiscal years, Wisconsin's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) has helped approximately 40,000 individuals with disabilities reach their employment goals through targeted services aligned with each consumer's skills and interests; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's DVR has continued to connect talented individuals with disabilities to employers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with more than 1,500 job seekers with disabilities reaching their employment goals since March 2020; and

WHEREAS; our state values the contributions of workers with disabilities, and understands the importance of providing opportunities to job seekers with disabilities in both the public and private sectors, so that all segments of our economy may benefit from the tremendous skills, abilities, and perspectives gained by fostering a diverse and inclusive workforce; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development in celebrating the integral role that workers with disabilities play in advancing our economy and in reaffirming our commitment to providing an environment that encourages and promotes the creation of employment opportunities for Wisconsinites of all abilities;

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

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT 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