WHEREAS; Rett syndrome is a rare neurological disorder that occurs almost exclusively in
females and is caused by a mutation in the MECP2 gene of the X chromosome; and

WHEREAS; it is estimated that every two hours, a girl is born with Rett syndrome, although
infants do not typically begin exhibiting symptoms until age six to 18 months when they enter a
regression period characterized by a loss of previously acquired motor skills; and

WHEREAS; the hallmark sign of Rett syndrome is near constant, repetitive hand movements
while awake, but the disorder also often leads to lifelong impairments including loss of speech,
seizures, scoliosis, irregular breathing patterns, and, in more than half of cases, loss of the ability
to walk; and

WHEREAS; while infants diagnosed with Rett syndrome will generally require significant
assistance with daily activities as they age, the disorder is not degenerative, and biomedical
research in mice even suggests that neurological symptoms may be reversed even after decades
of severe symptoms; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all kids and families affected by Rett
syndrome in spreading awareness of the disorder to the medical community, pharmaceutical
industry, researchers, therapists, educators, caregivers, and the general public, and in embracing
hope that further scientific research and funding will lead to better treatments and a cure;

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

RETT SYNDROME 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