

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

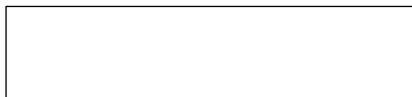
WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all kids and families affected by Rett syndrome in spreading awareness of the disorder to the medical community, pharmaceutical industry, researchers, therapists, educators, caregivers, and the general public, and in embracing hope that further scientific 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State