WHEREAS; domestic violence perpetrators intentionally use a pattern of physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, and/or cultural abuse to control their partners, violating their dignity, security, and psychological and physical well-being; and

WHEREAS; approximately 2,500 domestic violence survivors seek lifesaving assistance from local Wisconsin domestic violence service providers and shelters every day; and

WHEREAS; domestic violence causes significant and long-lasting trauma to countless people of every identity, and it is through the inspiration, courage, and persistence of survivors, their children, and advocates that legislation has been enacted to provide protection and services for survivors and their children; and

WHEREAS; together with the continuing efforts of Wisconsin’s state agencies to support survivors and prevent future violence in our communities, we recognize all survivors of domestic violence for their resilience, and acknowledge the important work of all those working to end domestic violence throughout our state and nation; and

WHEREAS; it is essential to acknowledge that domestic violence is a public health epidemic, exacerbated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and compounded upon by systemic inequities, and that generational cycles of domestic violence in the home mirror those of abuse and oppression in society; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families in increasing awareness of the prevalence of violence in our communities, remembering all those we have lost to domestic violence, and centering on the experiences of survivors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 2021 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 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 30th day of September 2021.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State