

WHEREAS; experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of patient health and that good nutrition can keep folks healthy and out of healthcare institutions, reducing healthcare costs and improving quality of life; and

WHEREAS; inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that impact good patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; and

WHEREAS; compounded by global food insecurity, and further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic that has intensified disparities and social isolation, malnutrition presents a serious threat to public health across our state and country; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that malnutrition disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, such as hospitalized patients, older adults, lower income communities, and communities of color; and

WHEREAS; the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has, for the first time, approved multiple malnutrition-specific clinical quality measures for two CMS qualified clinical data registries but, despite the recognized link between good nutrition and good health, nutrition screening and intervention have yet to be systematically incorporated across the continuum of care; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, and all key stakeholders in the public and private sectors in affirming our commitment to increasing awareness of, reducing, and preventing malnutrition;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 5 through 9, 2020, as

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

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 1st day of October 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State