

WHEREAS; eye health and vision care are essential components of overall health, wellness, and quality of life, yet research shows that up to 16 million Americans struggle with undiagnosed or untreated vision impairments, according to the American Optometric Association; and

WHEREAS; undiagnosed eye diseases, vision loss, and eye disorders create an estimated more than \$130 billion in annual economic burdens nationally, and cost affected individuals more than \$15,000 each year; and

WHEREAS; a doctor of optometry can detect over 270 diseases, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, glaucoma, macular degeneration, Graves' disease, autoimmune disorders, and cancer without an x-ray, CT scan, or invasive surgery; and

WHEREAS; taking a comprehensive eye exam with a primary eye healthcare provider, doctor of optometry, or as part of an annual healthcare routine is the simplest step that a person can take to help protect vision and ensure early diagnosis of and treatment for visual system diseases; and


WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Optometric Association in raising public awareness of the importance of eye health and vision care and in encouraging all Wisconsinites to proactively take care of their vision by seeking regular in-person, comprehensive eye exams by licensed eye doctors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 10 through 14 2022 as

“THIS IS OPTOMETRY” 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 21st day of September 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State