

WHEREAS; coming out, which is the public self-acknowledgement of belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community, is recognized by many as a significant life experience; and

WHEREAS; coming out can serve as a turning point for many folks from the loneliness and self-denial of concealing one's identity to the fulfillment of being true to one's self; and

WHEREAS; founded in 1988 to celebrate the anniversary of the Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, National Coming Out Day is observed every year on October 11 as a day of self-affirmation and awareness of LGBTQ issues; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we recognize that members of the LGBTQ community in our state, across our nation, and around the world have collectively worked to overcome gender, race, sexuality, and class adversity for generations, combating social stigma and demanding visibility; and

WHEREAS; we also recognize that, while we have taken critical steps toward achieving equity and equality for all Wisconsinites, we must protect and defend the rights LGBTQ people have fought for and deserve—including marriage equality—and commit to working to ensure our LGBTQ-identified family members, friends, and neighbors are treated equitably and with dignity under the law in our state and across our country; and

WHEREAS; today, we are reminded that every Wisconsinite deserves to stand boldly in their truth, without fear of persecution, judgement, or discrimination;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 11, 2020, as

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

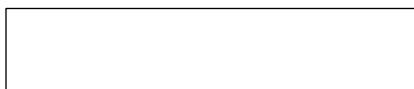
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

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 8th day of October 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State