

WHEREAS; Native Americans have inhabited this continent and this region since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to 11 federally recognized Native Nations and one Native Nation actively working towards federal recognition, namely the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Nation, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Mole Lake (Sokaogon Chippewa Community) Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians, and Brothertown Indian Nation; and

WHEREAS; throughout Wisconsin's history, Indigenous leaders have defended the land, protected the water, and championed Native rights, sovereignty, and prosperity and, in doing so, have promoted the health and well-being of the environment and people in every corner of the state; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes the immense historical, cultural, and contemporary significance of the Indigenous peoples of this region, without whom the building of our state would not have been possible; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin also recognizes the centuries of colonization, exploitation, oppression, and systemic racism that Indigenous peoples have endured, and continue to endure, at the hands of our institutions and state and federal governments, including the trauma inflicted upon Native children, families, and communities by federal Indian boarding school policies; and

WHEREAS; Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by the International Conference on Discrimination Against the Indigenous Population in the Americas and, in October 2019, was established in Wisconsin via Executive Order #50 to be observed statewide on the second Monday in October; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we strongly encourage all businesses, organizations, public institutions, and local governments to recognize, celebrate, and cultivate strong relationships with Indigenous peoples and Native Nations, and incorporate instruction on Indigenous history, culture, and tribal sovereignty into their practices; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin stands in solidarity with Indigenous peoples throughout the state, reaffirms its commitment to closing equity gaps through policy and practice, and pledges to respect the inherent sovereignty of all Native Nations and partner with them to ensure Indigenous people can thrive in Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 11, 2021, as

## **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES 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 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State