

WHEREAS; originating in Sweden over 200 years ago, the role of the ombuds was first conceived of as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens fielding complaints against their government; and

WHEREAS; today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work in a wide variety of organizations to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and

WHEREAS; ombuds working throughout Wisconsin and worldwide provide powerful risk management resources for the organizations they serve, which include universities and colleges, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, international organizations, and governments at all levels; and

WHEREAS; ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution and significant value to the people and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin highlights the value that ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourages all Wisconsinites to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professionals in this role across sectors, and to make use of their essential services as needed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 14, 2021, as

## **OMBUDS 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