

WHEREAS; hemp has origins dating back thousands of years and is considered one of the oldest cultivated fiber crops in the world; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin was one of our nation's leading producers of hemp in the first half of the 20th century, even producing fiber for the federal government to utilize during the World Wars; and

WHEREAS; the 2014 federal farm bill authorized Wisconsin to create an Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Program to issue grower and processor licenses, and this program, which was established in 2018, will now transition to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Domestic Hemp Production Program beginning in January 2022; and

WHEREAS; with the passage of the 2018 federal farm bill and the removal of hemp from the federal Controlled Substances Act, we have seen a monumental shift in the opportunities for growth and production of hemp in Wisconsin over the past few years; and

WHEREAS; interest in growing and processing hemp was tremendous throughout the first four growing seasons in Wisconsin, and as the crop transitions to USDA regulation as a more conventional agricultural commodity, growers and processors alike remain excited about hemp's potential in agriculture, textiles, recycling and bioplastics, food and beverages, construction and industrial materials, and personal care products, among others; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin recognizes and celebrates its long and proud history of pioneering research, education, innovation, and industrialization of hemp, and pledges to be a strong partner of the USDA in supporting our state's hemp industry and welcoming a new era of hemp growing, processing, and product development that will once again place Wisconsin as a national leader;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 18, 2021, as

## **WISCONSIN HEMP DAY**

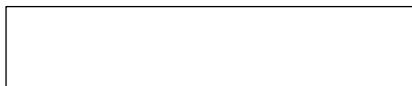
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state's residents.

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 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State