WHEREAS; substance abuse disorders impact quality of life in Wisconsin, negatively affecting the health, relationships, and livelihoods of folks throughout our state and potentially leading to severe injury or death from an overdose; and

WHEREAS; according to data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 9.9 million Americans abused prescription pain relievers in 2018 and, in over half of cases, the medications that were abused were either given by, bought from, or taken from a friend or relative; and

WHEREAS; a simple step that any individual can take towards preventing substance abuse disorder is to properly dispose of unused or unwanted medications through one of the many drug drop boxes and disposal sites located across our state; and

WHEREAS; Drug Take Back Day is a national campaign that aims to educate the public on the safe use, storage, and disposal of medications, providing folks with the means to safely, conveniently, and responsibly dispose of their unused or unwanted prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS; today, all Wisconsinites are encouraged to find their nearest drug disposal location by using the Drug Take Back locator tool through Dose of Reality Wisconsin’s website and to safely dispose of any unwanted or unused medications;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2020, as DRUG TAKE BACK 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 22nd day of October 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State