WHEREAS; according to Wisconsin Statute § 460.01(4), massage therapy—also known as bodywork therapy—refers to “the science and healing art that uses manual actions and adjunctive therapies to palpate and manipulate the soft tissue of the human body in order to improve circulation, reduce tension, relieve soft tissue pain, or increase flexibility”; and

WHEREAS; a growing body of research demonstrates that massage therapy can be beneficial to overall health for folks of all ages, and it increasingly plays a part in integrated healthcare services offered in Wisconsin and throughout our country; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin is committed to building a healthcare system that works for every Wisconsinite, and we recognize that massage therapy is a promising option for patients throughout our state who suffer from health issues including high blood pressure, arthritis, back pain, and headaches, and those who are seeking non-pharmacologic interventions for chronic pain management, behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation and physical training, and treatment of acute medical conditions; and

WHEREAS; our state’s licensed massage therapists are dedicated to the highest standards of care and professionalism, and maintain these standards through education, credentialing, and personal commitment; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) and its over 95,000 members—including the more than 2,000 members of the AMTA Wisconsin Chapter—in raising awareness of the potential benefits of massage therapy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 24 through 30, 2021, as

NATIONAL MASSAGE THERAPY AWARENESS WEEK

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 26th day of October 2021.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State