WHEREAS; winter in Wisconsin can result in serious hazards to the health and well-being of our state’s residents, which is why weatherization—the process of protecting buildings and households from the winter elements—is so important; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin’s low-income households are disproportionately affected by the negative effects of climate change, which include extreme temperatures during the winter, and are similarly affected the most by rising energy costs; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Weatherization Assistance Program works to reduce energy consumption and expenditures—and, consequently, reduce the emission of greenhouse gases—by providing vital weather-related upgrades such as insulation, air sealing, high-efficiency heating systems, and energy-efficient appliances to eligible low-income households; and

WHEREAS; the average family saves $440 per year in energy costs through weatherization, and households that have been weatherized experience health and safety benefits that include improved air quality, a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, and the addition of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors if they were not already present; and

WHEREAS; weatherization is a cost-effective investment of taxpayer dollars, with every dollar invested in the Wisconsin Weatherization Assistance Program returning over four dollars in energy, health, and safety benefits; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Weatherization Assistance Program provides an economic boost for the communities it serves by providing employment opportunities, more energy efficient housing stock, and improved neighborhood conditions, and plays a role in creating the workforce that will support the green economy going forward; and

WHEREAS; in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, weatherization has never been more critical as we work to ensure that indoor environments are as safe, healthy, and comfortable as possible for all Wisconsinites, and especially those most vulnerable, as we move into the winter months; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Weatherization Assistance Program in reaffirming its commitment to pursuing cost-effective energy efficiency practices, helping to make low-income communities more resilient to the effects of climate change, and improving the quality of life for all Wisconsinites year-round, regardless of income status or ZIP code;

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

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State