WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that approximately half a million Clostridioides difficile (C. difficile) infections occur each year that require hospital treatment or affect those already hospitalized; and

WHEREAS, approximately 29,000 patients die within thirty days of the initial diagnosis of C. difficile, and about 15,000 deaths are estimated to be directly attributable to the C. difficile infection; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that C. difficile has become the most common microbial cause of healthcare-associated infections in United States hospitals and costs nearly $5 billion each year in excess healthcare costs for acute care facilities alone; and

WHEREAS, one out of every five patients with a healthcare-associated C. difficile infection experiences a recurrence of the infection and one out of every eleven patients aged 65 or older with a healthcare-associated C. difficile infection dies within 30 days of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, dedicated healthcare professionals and improved health practices, such as improved antibiotic use, hand hygiene, and environmental cleaning, can significantly reduce the risk and spread of C. difficile infections; and

WHEREAS, the state of Wisconsin joins C. difficile patients and advocates to raise awareness about C. difficile infections and promote the health and safety of all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the state of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim November 2019 as

C. DIFFICILE INFECTION
AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our citizens.

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 25th day of October 2019.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor

DOUGLASS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State