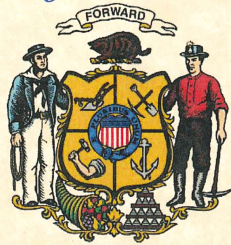


# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; more than 11 million people have been diagnosed with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), a term which encompasses a group of diseases that cause airflow obstruction and breathing-related problems, including emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and in some cases, asthma and severe bronchiectasis; and

*WHEREAS*; COPD is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, taking approximately 160,000 lives each year; and

*WHEREAS*; COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects millions of adults throughout the country, and approximately 13 percent of Wisconsin adults have been diagnosed with the condition; and

*WHEREAS*; smoking is the primary risk factor for COPD, and other risk factors include exposure to second-hand smoke, air pollution, and genetic traits, such as alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency; and

*WHEREAS*; the first-ever COPD National Action Plan was released by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute in 2017 to provide a framework for a multi-stakeholder, public, and private response to lower the burden of COPD in the United States; and

*WHEREAS*; the state of Wisconsin joins advocates, patients, and families across the country to encourage increased awareness, earlier detection, and proper treatment and management of COPD, so as to slow the progression of the disease, reduce costs, and improve quality of life and self-sufficiency for our great state's residents;

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

## COPD 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 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019.

  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State