

WHEREAS; Native Americans have inhabited this continent and this region since time immemorial, and have contributed significantly to the growth, prosperity, and identity of our country, even before its inception; and

WHEREAS; the United States Census reports that, as of 2017, more than 5.6 million people throughout our country identify as native or indigenous and, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there are 574 federally-recognized Native American tribes; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to 11 federally-recognized Native Nations and one federally unrecognized nation, and has been home to numerous Indigenous leaders, as well, who have defended the land, protected the water, and championed Native rights, sovereignty, and prosperity for generations; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin pledges to respect the individual sovereignty of each Native Nation, while recognizing the somber history of colonization, exploitation, violence, and systemic racism that Indigenous peoples have endured, and continue to endure, at the hands of our state and federal governments; and

WHEREAS; our state remains firmly committed to addressing persistent disparities and expanding practices and partnerships that work to close the achievement, opportunity, and equity gaps for Native communities across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; this month provides all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to recognize the sacrifices Indigenous peoples have made throughout the history of our country, to celebrate their resilience, and to honor the rich cultures, traditions, and contemporary contributions of Native Americans in Wisconsin and across the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim November 2020 as

## **NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

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 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State