WHEREAS; according to the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, there are more than 325,000 licensed nurse practitioners in the United States, including nearly 5,000 in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; nurse practitioners serve as trusted healthcare providers for patients in Wisconsin and across our country, providing high-quality primary, acute, and specialty care services while focusing on health promotion, disease prevention, health education, and counseling; and

WHEREAS; nurse practitioners guide patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices every day, and can help address institutionalized disparities in health outcomes and combat systemic racism in healthcare by providing care and expanding access to care in underserved communities; and

WHEREAS; as highly skilled practitioners with advanced education and clinical training, the confidence that patients have in the healthcare services that nurse practitioners deliver is evidenced by the more than one billion visits made annually to nurse practitioners across our country; and

WHEREAS; this year, as we continue to collectively face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the emergence of the Delta variant, we recognize our state’s nurse practitioners who are working tirelessly to diagnose and treat patients, combat community spread, and ensure the equitable distribution of vaccinations; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we reaffirm our commitment to building a high-quality, affordable healthcare infrastructure that works for everyone and thank the nurse practitioners working throughout Wisconsin for their help in actualizing this vision each and every day; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in commending our nurse practitioners for their selflessness, sacrifice, and empathy on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, and for the important work that they do year-round to keep us all safe, healthy, and supported;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim November 7 through 13, 2021, as NATIONAL NURSE PRACTITIONERS 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 18th day of October 2021.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State