

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's rural communities are core to the state's culture, heritage, and economy, serving as hubs of agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing; and

WHEREAS; according to the Rural Health Information Hub, as of 2021, more than 1.5 million Wisconsinites, or about a quarter of the state's population, live in rural communities; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's rural healthcare systems are composed of thousands of healthcare professionals and providers working in rural hospitals, clinics, and emergency medical service agencies, and while rural healthcare systems often face challenges—like recruiting and retaining specialty healthcare providers—these providers continue to rise to the occasion to meet the needs of the communities they serve, saving lives and keeping folks safe by providing high-quality care to residents of rural areas, as well as those who work in and visit them; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we recognize the highly trained professionals and skilled workers who make up our state's rural healthcare system for their resourcefulness, resilience, and commitment to patient care and the delivery of essential healthcare services in rural communities as well as across the state's entire healthcare enterprise; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins its healthcare partner organizations in celebrating the individuals, institutions, and programs that work to overcome the unique challenges of delivering rural health services, both during ordinary times and under the extraordinary circumstances of the past few years;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim November 17 2022 as

## **WISCONSIN RURAL HEALTH 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 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State