

WHEREAS; rural communities have been an integral part of our state's economy and heritage since its founding, establishing Wisconsin as a leader in agriculture, tourism, and industry; and

WHEREAS; in 2019, more than 1.5 million Wisconsinites, or approximately 26 percent of our state's population, lived in rural counties; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's rural communities and residents have always demonstrated both leadership and resilience in response to economic and natural adversities, and this capacity has only been underscored by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS; our rural hospitals, clinics, Emergency Medical Services providers, healthcare professionals, and all healthcare workers have stepped up to the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, saving lives and keeping neighbors safe by providing high-quality care to rural residents and those who work in and visit our rural communities; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we recognize the thousands of highly trained professionals and skilled workers who make up our state's rural healthcare system for their ongoing care, selflessness, sacrifice, and empathy; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin and our healthcare partner organizations join patients in communities throughout our state in celebrating the individuals, institutions, and programs that work to overcome the unique challenges of delivering rural health services each and every day, and especially in the context of a global pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim November 19, 2020, as

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 19th day of November 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State