

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; Transgender Day of Remembrance began in 1999 as a vigil organized by Gwendolyn Ann Smith to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a Black transgender woman who was murdered in an act of anti-transgender violence the year before; and

*WHEREAS*; Transgender Day of Remembrance has since been observed in cities throughout the United States, as well as internationally, as a day to mourn, remember, and honor the memories of all transgender and gender non-conforming individuals who have been killed by anti-transgender hatred, prejudice, and violence; and

*WHEREAS*; according to the Human Rights Campaign, at least 32 transgender or gender nonconforming individuals have been fatally shot or killed by other violent means so far in 2022, the majority of which have been transgender women of color; and

*WHEREAS*; official statistics on violent acts against transgender or gender non-conforming individuals likely present underestimates, as these incidences often go unreported, uninvestigated, or otherwise unaddressed due to institutionalized transphobia, racism, and discrimination; and

*WHEREAS*; transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in Wisconsin, throughout the country, and around the world have collectively worked to overcome adversity for generations, combating social stigma, demanding visibility, working tirelessly towards equality, and empowering all people to embrace who they are, be true to themselves, and live their most authentic and fulfilling lives; and

*WHEREAS*; the past year has seen a significant increase in anti-LGBTQ legislation targeting transgender individuals introduced in state legislatures throughout the United States—including Wisconsin—which only underscores the importance of combatting hateful rhetoric and working to ensure that all LGBTQ people are treated equitably and with dignity under law in Wisconsin and across the country; and

*WHEREAS*; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms the right of every Wisconsinite to stand boldly in their truth without fear of persecution, judgement, or discrimination, and joins members of the state's LGBTQ community and allies in condemning violence against transgender and gender non-conforming individuals and in remembering all those who have been so senselessly lost to anti-transgender violence this year and every year;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim November 20, 2022, as

## TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

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 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Evers".  
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TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Douglas La Follette".  
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DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State