WHEREAS: Black History Month has been commemorated in February since 1976 to celebrate the endless contributions African Americans have made to America; and

WHEREAS: Harvard-educated historian Carter G. Woodson set the foundation for Black History Month in 1926 through his creation of “Negro History Week”, a week dedicated to highlighting the underrepresented narratives of African Americans in United States history; and

WHEREAS: Black History Month endeavors to recognize the contributions of often overlooked African Americans such as Lloyd Barbee, a political leader of Wisconsin’s civil rights movement and Vel Phillips, the first African American elected to statewide office in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: this year’s theme for Black Month History month is “Black Migrations”, emphasizing the movement of African American people to “new destinations and subsequently to new social realities”; and

WHEREAS: Black History Month should act as a resounding call for all Wisconsinites to work together to create a Wisconsin that is a more diverse and inclusive place to work, live, and raise a family;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 2019, as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

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 1st day of February 2019.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State