WHEREAS, a doula is a trained professional who aids women in birth and the postpartum process through physical, emotional, and informational support; and

WHEREAS, World Doula Week was founded in Israel by Ruti Karni Horowitz on March 22, 2011, to raise awareness on the importance of doulas and the benefits they can provide women and their families during the childbirth and postpartum experience; and

WHEREAS, doulas present during the birth and postpartum period has demonstrated greater physical, emotional, and psychological health outcomes for both mothers and babies; and

WHEREAS, doulas can provide improved health outcomes to mothers and babies such as reduced incidences of c-sections, shorter length of labor, increased breastfeeding initiation and continuation, and reduced incidences of postpartum mood disorders; and

WHEREAS, access to doulas for all women is imperative for ensuring healthy birth and postpartum outcomes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the state of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim March 22-28, 2019 as

WORLD DOULA WEEK

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 29th day of March 2019.

Tony Evers
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette
 Secretary of State