WHEREAS: excessive alcohol consumption is a public health and safety concern costing Wisconsin residents $6.8 billion annually in lost productivity, health care, criminal justice, and crime, and imposing profound negative effects on individuals, families, communities, and employers; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin continues to have one of the highest adult binge drinking rates in the nation; and

WHEREAS: children who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who delay alcohol use until age 21; and

WHEREAS: alcohol and other substance use and addiction is a key priority in Wisconsin’s state health plan, Healthiest Wisconsin 2020; and

WHEREAS: health care professionals can effectively screen for and identify alcohol use disorders during annual check-ups and periodic health evaluations; and

WHEREAS: all Wisconsin residents can help prevent and reduce excessive alcohol use by supporting enforcement of minimum legal drinking age laws, and assisting our neighbors and family members in recovery;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the state of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

ALCOHOL AWARENESS and SCREENING 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 29th day of March 2019.

[Signature]
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

[Signature]
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State