WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Week is designed to engage the public in advance care planning, which is the process of understanding, reflecting upon, and discussing future medical decisions in the event a person is unable to communicate, including end-of-life medical care preferences; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin citizens are encouraged to have in-depth conversations with their loved ones about their healthcare values and wishes, to document their preferences in a written advance directive, and to ensure the advance directive is filed in their medical record;

WHEREAS, it is estimated that only 20 percent of Wisconsin citizens and less than 50 percent of severely or terminally ill patients have an advance directive, likely because of the need for knowledge, support, and unified systems and policies; and

WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Week serves to encourage citizens and healthcare facilities to participate in a statewide effort to create systems, policies, and workflows that ensure advance care planning is a standard of patient care; and

WHEREAS, the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Medical Society, and numerous other organizations throughout Wisconsin have endorsed this event and are committed to engaging the public in the advance care planning process and increasing the number of Wisconsinites with advance directives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 14-20, 2019 as

HEALTHCARE DECISIONS 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 1st day of April 2019.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State