WHEREAS; Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), an extremely challenging speech disorder in children, causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children; and

WHEREAS; the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia endure an incredibly lengthy struggle; and

WHEREAS; without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia are placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills that can have future effects on independence and employment opportunities if not resolved or improved; and

WHEREAS; most children with apraxia of speech will learn to communicate with their very own voices only if they receive early intervention, and appropriate, intensive, and frequent speech therapy; and

WHEREAS; greater public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Wisconsin is imperative among community members, physicians, education professionals, policy makers, and elected officials; and

WHEREAS; our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the state of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2019 as

APraxia Awareness Day

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