WHEREAS, breastfeeding has numerous benefits for the physical and mental health of children and mothers; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding exclusively for the first six months of a child’s life, with continued breastfeeding for the child’s first year, is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics to optimize infant health, growth, and development; and

WHEREAS, many pregnant women and new mothers who want to breastfeed often face barriers in community, health care, and employment settings, including racial and ethnic discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin supports the Surgeon General’s “Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding,” which emphasizes the importance of breastfeeding as a public health imperative and a proven primary prevention strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health Services, local health departments, and tribal organizations promote and support exclusive breastfeeding as the optimal method of infant feeding through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children and other nutrition programs; and

WHEREAS, 2019 marks nine years since the passage of Assembly Bill 57, codifying a mother’s right to breastfeed her child in any location in Wisconsin where the mother and child are otherwise authorized to be; and

WHEREAS, health and breastfeeding advocates worldwide join in celebrating and promoting awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding by building individual, family, and community support for breastfeeding, supporting strategies that protect optimal breastfeeding practices, and fostering systems and environments that help to increase breastfeeding rates for all families and communities;

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

NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all 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 17th day of July 2019.

Tony Evers
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State