STATE of WISCONSIN



WHEREAS; on August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment, thereby enabling Congress to amend the United States Constitution and legalize women's suffrage throughout the country; and

WHEREAS; the fight for nationwide ratification that took place in Nashville, Tennessee, on August 18, 1920, became known as the "war of the roses," as pro-suffragists displayed their position with yellow roses, while antisuffragists protested the movement by donning red roses; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin blazed the trail on the issue of women's suffrage and became the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment on June 10, 1919, more than a year before its nationwide acceptance; and

WHEREAS; while nationwide ratification did not secure an equitable path to the polls for every woman, it was a momentous milestone and provided a vital foundation for future movements to build upon to ensure women across our country are ensured the right to vote; and

WHEREAS; today, in the wake of nationwide ratification of the 19th Amendment, women have played an integral role in the democratic process and working toward fair and equitable representation; and

WHEREAS; in celebrating this landmark moment in history, the State of Wisconsin recognizes that there is still work to be done to ensure every person – regardless of their gender, ability, or zip code – is able to access the polls in their community and exercise the rights so many fought hard to secure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim August 18, 2019, as

THE 99th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONWIDE RATIFICATION OF THE 19th AMENDMENT

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 2nd day of August 2019.

TONY EVERS

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State