STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

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WHEREAS; Native Americans have inhabited this continent and this region since time immemorial, and have contributed significantly to the growth, prosperity, and identity of the state of Wisconsin and the United States as a whole, from before its inception to the present day; and

WHEREAS; the 2020 U.S. Census reports that 9.7 million people throughout the country identify—either alone or in combination with another race—as American Indian and Alaska Native, and according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there are currently 574 federally recognized Native Nations; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to 12 Native Nations, including the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Nation, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians, and Brothertown Indian Nation, and has been home to countless Indigenous leaders who have defended the land, protected the water, and championed Native rights, sovereignty, and prosperity for generations; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes the centuries of colonization, exploitation, violence, trauma, and systemic racism that Indigenous peoples have long endured at the hands of the state and federal government and reaffirms its commitment to respecting the individual sovereignty, culture and heritage, and treaty rights of each Native Nation; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, Wisconsin celebrates the incredible resilience of the Native Nations and Indigenous peoples throughout Wisconsin who have, despite all odds, preserved their unique cultures, languages, and traditions, and who continue to make valuable cultural and economic contributions to the state, including by serving as major employers, impacting regional economies, and supporting local communities and charities; and

WHEREAS; this month provides all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to honor the history of Indigenous peoples and to recognize and learn about the rich cultures, traditions, and contemporary contributions of Native Americans in Wisconsin and across the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

By the Govern:

Douglas LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State

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 28th day of October 2022.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR