

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER #17**

### **Relating to the Creation of the Governor's Health Equity Council**

**WHEREAS**, to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, it is necessary to approach public health with a comprehensive strategy that includes assessing and improving all determinants of health including access to quality healthcare, economic and social factors, racial disparities, and the physical environment;

**WHEREAS**, according to the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute's 2016 Wisconsin Report Card, the State of Wisconsin has an overall health disparities grade of 'D';

**WHEREAS**, geographic disparities exist in health outcomes and the determinants that influence health in both rural and urban communities; and

**WHEREAS**, a focus on the impacts of social determinants can drive better health outcomes in rural and urban communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby order the following:

1. Establish the Governor's Health Equity Council under Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The council shall be staffed by the Department of Health Services. The council shall consist of:
  - a. the Lieutenant Governor or a designee;
  - b. the Secretary of the Department of Health Services or a designee;
  - c. the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families or a designee;
  - d. other individuals appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor shall appoint a chairperson to lead the Council.
2. The Governor's Health Equity Council shall develop a plan, supported by a body of research, with key benchmarks to reduce and eliminate health disparities throughout the State of Wisconsin by 2030. The plan shall address health disparities in populations based on race, economic status, education level, history of incarceration, and geographic location. The Health Equity Council may create such subcommittees as are necessary to achieve this mission.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done in the City of Milwaukee this nineteenth Day of March in the year of two thousand nineteen.

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TONY EVERS  
Governor

By the Governor:

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DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State