

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; catalyzed in the early hours of June 28, 1969, the Stonewall Riots in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan, New York, marked a pivotal turning point in the fight for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) rights in the United States and laid the groundwork for June to be recognized as LGBTQ Pride Month in Wisconsin and nationwide; and

*WHEREAS*; members of the LGBTQ community in Wisconsin, across the nation, and around the world have collectively worked to overcome discrimination on the basis of gender and sexuality, intersected by race, ability, and class, for generations, combating social stigma, demanding visibility and representation, and demonstrating incredible resilience; and

*WHEREAS*; over the past several decades, the state has taken critical steps toward achieving LGBTQ equity and equality, such as the passage the nation's first law banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in 1982 and the election of LGBTQ individuals to public offices at all levels of government, including the first openly LGBTQ woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and the first openly LGBTQ person elected to the U.S. Senate; and

*WHEREAS*; in the last few years, there has been a significant increase in anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced in state legislatures throughout the country, including Wisconsin, and as we celebrate hard-won liberties, we must commit to combatting hateful rhetoric and policies that target LGBTQ Wisconsinites—and LGBTQ kids, in particular—and continue working to ensure that all LGBTQ people can access the support and resources they need to thrive and are treated equitably and with dignity under the law; and

*WHEREAS*; in June 2019, the Rainbow Pride Flag was flown above the Wisconsin State Capitol building for the first time in state history, to send a clear and unequivocal message that the state values diversity, inclusion, intersectionality, and is a welcoming and inclusive place for all; and

*WHEREAS*; an iteration of the widely recognized Rainbow Pride Flag, the Progress Pride Flag, which was created to increase visibility and advocacy for marginalized communities within the LGBTQ community and includes additional stripes forming a chevron pattern that represent LGBTQ individuals of color and the transgender community, as well as those who are living with and who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS, will be flown above the State Capitol for the second year in a row; and

*WHEREAS*; this month, as we celebrate Pride Month in Wisconsin and raise a Pride Flag over our State Capitol for the fifth year in a row, we are reminded that every Wisconsinite deserves to stand boldly in their truth, without fear of persecution, judgment, or discrimination;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim June 2023 as

## LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH

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

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 31<sup>st</sup> day of May 2023.

TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State