



**EXECUTIVE ORDER #297**

**Relating to a Proclamation that the Progress Pride Flag Be Flown over the East Wing of the Wisconsin State Capitol Building in Recognition of Pride Month**

**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 led to June being recognized as LGBTQ Pride Month in Wisconsin and nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, generations of LGBTQ leaders in Wisconsin, across the United States, and around the world, have collectively worked to overcome discrimination and inequities on the basis of gender and sexuality, intersected by race, ability, and class, combating social stigma, demanding visibility and representation, and demonstrating remarkable resilience;

**WHEREAS**, despite historic victories, in the last several years, there has been a significant increase in anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced in state legislatures across the country, including in Wisconsin, that have targeted LGBTQ kids and people and increased dangerous anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, as well as efforts on a state and national level to erase LGBTQ history and stories;

**WHEREAS**, as Wisconsin celebrates Pride Month, the state reaffirms its commitment to combatting hateful rhetoric and policies that target LGBTQ Wisconsinites—and LGBTQ kids in particular—and to continue working to ensure that all LGBTQ people have the support and resources they need to thrive and are treated equitably and with dignity under the law;

**WHEREAS**, in June 2019, in celebration of Pride Month, the Rainbow Pride Flag was raised above the Wisconsin State Capitol building for the first time in state history, a tradition that has continued annually and since 2022, has included 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 people of color and the transgender community, as well as individuals living with and who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pride Flag flying above the People's House sends a clear and unequivocal message that the state of Wisconsin recognizes and celebrates LGBTQ Wisconsinites, remembers and honors the history and contributions of LGBTQ people and the greater LGBTQ community, and reaffirms its commitment to striving to be a place where every LGBTQ kid, person, and family can stand boldly in their truth and be safe, treated with dignity and respect, and welcomed without fear of persecution, judgment, or discrimination.

**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. Order that the Progress Pride Flag shall be flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building, beginning on **Monday, June 1, 2026**, and ending at sunset on **Tuesday, June 30, 2026**.
2. Authorize state buildings and any jurisdiction of the State of Wisconsin to fly the Progress Pride Flag during the month of June 2026 for the purposes of recognizing Pride Month.

**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 first day of June in the year of two thousand twenty-six.

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TONY EVERS  
Governor

By the Governor:

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SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State