



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #229

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 LGBTQ rights in the United States and laid the groundwork for June to be recognized as LGBTQ Pride Month in Wisconsin and nationwide;

WHEREAS, members of the LGBTQ community in Wisconsin, across the United States, 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;

WHEREAS, this year the state also recognizes the tenth anniversary of same-sex couples being legally able to marry in the state of Wisconsin, a right that was later affirmed for same-sex couples in all 50 states in June 2015 by the U.S. Supreme Court;

WHEREAS, despite these historic victories for LGBTQ people, there has been a significant increase in anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced in state legislatures across the country in recent years, including Wisconsin, and as Wisconsinites celebrate hard-won liberties, the state must remain committed to combatting hateful rhetoric and policies that target LGBTQ Wisconsinites—and LGBTQ kids included—and continue working to ensure that all LGBTQ people are welcome, included, treated with dignity and respect, and have access to the support and resources they need to be successful and thrive;

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 LGBTQ people, diversity, and inclusion, and aims to be a state where every person feels they belong;

WHEREAS, the Progress Pride Flag, an iteration of the widely recognized Rainbow Pride Flag, will be flown above the State Capitol for the third year in a row and was designed to enhance visibility and advocacy for marginalized groups within the LGBTQ community, incorporating additional stripes arranged in a chevron pattern that represent LGBTQ communities of color, the transgender community, and individuals living with and who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, this month, as the state celebrates Pride Month and raises a Pride Flag over the State Capitol for the sixth year in a row, Wisconsin recognizes its strength through diversity and reaffirms its commitment to building a Wisconsin that is safe, inclusive, and welcoming, that celebrates all who call it home, and where every person can stand boldly in their truth without fear of harassment, violence, 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:

1. Order that the Progress Pride Flag shall be flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building, beginning on **Friday, May 31, 2024**, and ending at sunset on **Sunday, June 30, 2024**.
2. Authorize state buildings and any jurisdiction of the state of Wisconsin to fly the Progress Pride Flag during the month of June 2024 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 thirty-first day of May in the year of two thousand twenty-four.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tony Evers'.

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Sarah Godlewski'.

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State