ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: recognizing October 6 as German–American Day.

Whereas, October 6, 2013, is the 330th anniversary of the day that 13 families landed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, after an overseas journey from Krefeld, Germany; and

Whereas, the 13 families, 33 people in all, of Mennonite and Quaker descent, under the leadership of legal scholar Franz Daniel Pastorius, founded Germantown six miles north of Philadelphia; and

Whereas, Germantown, Pennsylvania, is recognized as the first permanent settlement of immigrants from Germany in the original 13 American colonies; and

Whereas, German immigrants supplied America with a workforce that helped shape and embody the American dream; and

Whereas, according to a study done by the United States Census Bureau in 1979, more Americans trace their lineage back to Germany than to any other nation; and

Whereas, in 1983, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first German–American Day for the three hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first German settlers in America; and

Whereas, in 1987, Congress approved Senate Joint Resolution 108, designating October 6, 1987, as German–American Day, and it was signed into law later that year; and

Whereas, in 2009, President Barack Obama proclaimed October 6 as German–American Day to celebrate German–Americans for their remarkable role in our nation's development; and

Whereas, German–American Day is a widely renowned holiday often accompanied by Oktoberfests, Steuben Parades, and many other special festivities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That in recognition of the importance of the contribution of German–American citizens to the United States of America, the members of the Wisconsin legislature do hereby proclaim October 6, 2013, to be German–American Day and encourage citizens to learn more about the countless German–American contributions to society and to show their pride by appropriate celebrations.

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Senator Michael G. Ellis
President of the Senate

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Representative Robin J. Vos
Speaker of the Assembly

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Date

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Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk