



State of Wisconsin
2003 - 2004 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2463/1
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2003 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 12

April 18, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives LASSA, HAHN, BOYLE, JESKEWITZ, PLOUFF and HUBER. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** honoring the life and public service of the ecologist Forest W. Stearns
2 upon his induction into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame.

3 Whereas, Forest W. Stearns was born on September 18, 1918, in Shorewood,
4 Wisconsin; and

5 Whereas, Forest Stearns received his undergraduate degree from Harvard
6 University and continued his education at the University of Wisconsin–Madison,
7 where he received his master’s and doctoral degrees; and

8 Whereas, Forest Stearns was an expert on plant life in the Lake States Region
9 and is an internationally renowned and respected ecologist; and

10 Whereas, Forest Stearns served as a mentor to students as a professor of biology
11 at Purdue University from 1947 to 1957 and as a faculty member and department
12 chair in botany and biology at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee from 1968 to
13 1987, where he was among the nation’s pioneers in the emerging field of urban
14 ecology; and

1 Whereas, Forest Stearns was named professor emeritus at the University of
2 Wisconsin–Milwaukee for the countless scientific papers he authored and for the
3 students that he mentored and by whom he was so loved that they endowed an award
4 in his name at the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters after his
5 retirement; and

6 Whereas, Forest Stearns shared his wealth of knowledge and sense of humor
7 with others after his retirement doing research at the United States Forest Service
8 Northern Forest Research Station in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, where he worked on
9 wetland problems, ecology, and diverse forestry; and

10 Whereas, Forest Stearns was a member of over 15 environmental and ecological
11 societies and won many esteemed awards including the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of
12 Fame, the American Institute of Biological Sciences Outstanding Leadership Award,
13 and the United State Forestry Service Scientific Roundtable Award; and

14 Whereas, Forest W. Stearns died in 1999; now, therefore, be it

15 ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** the members of the Wisconsin assembly pay
16 tribute to the immeasurable contributions that Forest Stearns made to the field of
17 ecology and the lives of those that knew him and honor him with induction into the
18 Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame; and, be it further

19 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this resolution
20 to Mr. Stearns' daughter, Carlin Hibbard of Humbird, Wisconsin.

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(END)