



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3275/1
CMH:emw

2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 43

May 3, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives HORLACHER, VRUWINK, RODRIGUEZ, SPREITZER, BERCEAU, CROWLEY, MURPHY, POPE, SINICKI, SKOWRONSKI and SPIROS, cosponsored by Senators NASS, RINGHAND and BEWLEY. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming May 12, 2017, as Lorine Niedecker Day in the state of
2 Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, Lorine Niedecker was born May 12, 1903, on Blackhawk Island near
4 Fort Atkinson; and

5 Whereas, Lorine Niedecker's reputation as a major 20th-century poet has
6 expanded since her death in 1970 with the publication of her collected works and two
7 editions of correspondence; and

8 Whereas, Lorine Niedecker has been referred to as "The Emily Dickinson of the
9 Midwest"; and

10 Whereas, Lorine Niedecker is well-known internationally, her poetry
11 translated into Spanish, Portuguese, and French; and

12 Whereas, her poetry is taught in schools and colleges around the United States;
13 and

14 Whereas, the Friends of Lorine Niedecker has devoted itself to celebrating her
15 life and work; and

1 Whereas, the city of Fort Atkinson has embraced Lorine Niedecker with pride,
2 supporting the Friends, hosting the annual Lorine Niedecker Wisconsin Poetry
3 Festival, and showcasing her work with public art installations; and

4 Whereas, Lorine Niedecker dedicated herself to poetry, becoming especially
5 devoted to objectivism in poetry, focusing on an object rather than one's feelings and
6 conveying its essence along a musical line; and

7 Whereas, she began to be published by small presses and little magazines; and

8 Whereas, during her lifetime she saw only four books of her poetry published
9 (*New Goose, My Friend Tree, North Central*, and *T&G*) but expanded as a poet,
10 writing longer poems like “Wintergreen Ridge” and the autobiographical “Paean to
11 Place”; and

12 Whereas, she became admired by her poetic peers for the subtlety of her tightly
13 crafted, nuanced, and ironic poems, as well as for her total devotion to her calling;
14 and

15 Whereas, she is perhaps best known as a “poet of place” who wrote about the
16 Blackhawk Island that she loved; now, therefore, be it

17 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
18 Wisconsin Legislature proclaim May 12, 2017, as Lorine Niedecker Day in the state
19 of Wisconsin.

20

(END)