



2013 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 73

November 12, 2013 – Introduced by Representatives C. TAYLOR, THIESFELDT, A. OTT, BIES, BERCEAU, DANOU, KAHL, KOLSTE, MILROY, RINGHAND, SARGENT and SHANKLAND, cosponsored by Senators COWLES, LASSA, RISSER, SHILLING and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** a Wisconsin children’s outdoor bill of rights.

2 Whereas, Wisconsin is a land rich in natural beauty and glorious landscapes,
3 which should be shared with the children and families of the state; and

4 Whereas, Wisconsin has led the nation in a long tradition of environmental
5 protection and conservation, boasting leaders such as Aldo Leopold, John Muir, and
6 Gaylord Nelson; and

7 Whereas, Wisconsin has a long standing commitment to its natural heritage,
8 connecting its people to the land, and passing its heritage and traditions to future
9 generations; and

10 Whereas, children are losing their connection to the natural world, which
11 threatens their health, quality of life, readiness for future job opportunities, and the
12 future of our natural resources; and

13 Whereas, children who frequently spend time outdoors have significantly less
14 stress, develop enhanced sensory perception, and experience fewer attention

1 difficulties and decreased rates of physical and emotional illness and obesity; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
4 Wisconsin legislature recognize that every Wisconsin child should have the
5 opportunity to:

6 discover Wisconsin's diverse wilderness: prairies, forests, wetlands, and
7 beaches;

8 breathe clean air and drink clean water;

9 splash, play, and swim in safe, clean lakes and rivers;

10 visit a working farm;

11 share a hunting or fishing experience with a family member, friend, or mentor;

12 follow a trail — ride it or walk it;

13 play, snowshoe, ski, snowboard, or sled in the snow;

14 camp out under the stars;

15 eat meals made from local products and ingredients;

16 play in the dirt, plant a seed, and grow a garden; and

17 explore and connect with Wisconsin's natural spaces and wild places; and, be
18 it further

19 ***Resolved, That*** the members of the Wisconsin legislature expect children's
20 participation in outdoor activities.

21 (END)