



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4620/1  
CMH:klm

## 2017 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 92

January 18, 2018 - Introduced by Senator TESTIN, cosponsored by Representative KRUG. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** commemorating the life and accomplishments of Robert Rama  
2           Williams.

3           Whereas, Robert Rama Williams was born on September 5, 1925, in Oshkosh,  
4     Wisconsin, to Ralph Williams and Jeannette Gibson; and

5           Whereas, Robert spent his childhood growing up in Neenah, Wisconsin, before  
6     enrolling at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1943; and

7           Whereas, Robert joined a Navy program where his unit was subsequently sent  
8     to Oberlin College in Ohio for continued education; and

9           Whereas, in 1945, Robert returned to the University of Wisconsin–Madison,  
10     and following his graduation in 1949, worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture  
11     and as an editor for *Gas Magazines*; and

12           Whereas, Robert was married to Mary Markham in Janesville, Wisconsin,  
13     before moving with his family to Stevens Point, Wisconsin, in 1953; and

1           Whereas, his previous work in public relations at the Kohler Company led to  
2 Robert's eventual formation of his own public relations firm, Idea Associates, in 1958;  
3 and

4           Whereas, during his career, Robert aided in a multitude of political campaigns,  
5 including several for the Wisconsin Supreme Court, as well as those of Melvin R.  
6 Laird and Lee Sherman Dreyfus; and

7           Whereas, Robert's public relations clients included the Marshfield Clinic, the  
8 Cops Company, Good Roads Association, the University of Wisconsin Alumni  
9 Association, and others; and

10           Whereas, one of Robert's most significant works was assisting Melvin R. Laird  
11 in the Laird Youth Leadership Campaign at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens  
12 Point; and

13           Whereas, throughout the course of his life, Robert was awarded many honors,  
14 such as the Distinguished Service Award from the University of  
15 Wisconsin-Madison's School of Journalism, the Letters and Science Community  
16 Award and Significant Achievement Award from the University of  
17 Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and the Quality of Life Leadership Award from St.  
18 Michael's Foundation; and

19           Whereas, Robert's life was changed when he contracted polio in 1954, but it led  
20 to his outstanding educational efforts on post-polio syndrome research and  
21 awareness, for which he was honored by the Rotary Club of Stevens Point; and

22           Whereas, Robert was an outstanding citizen, who loved his family and friends,  
23 and contributed greatly to his community and the State of Wisconsin; now, therefore,  
24 be it

