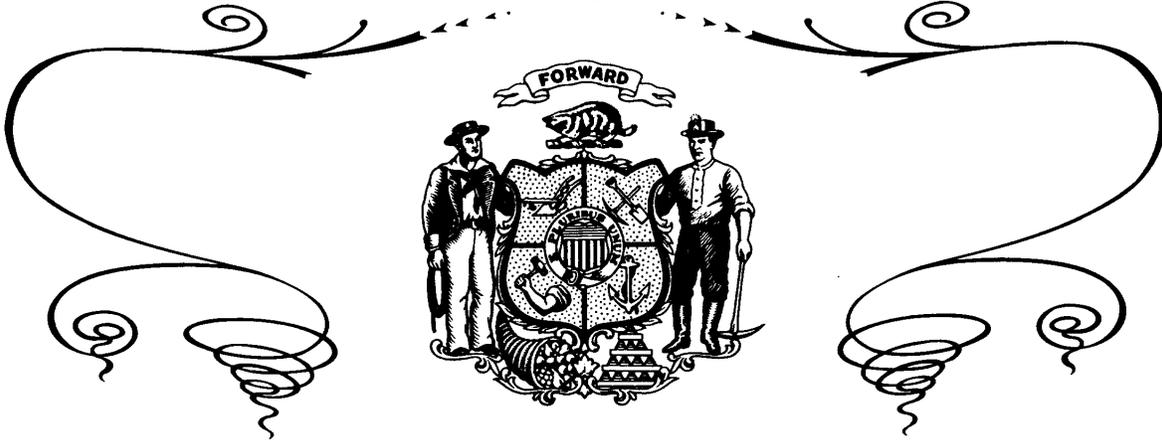


State of Wisconsin



2005 Senate Joint Resolution 28

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: proclaiming an annual Renewable Energy Awareness Week (the week of the summer solstice) and an annual Renewable Energy Awareness Day (June 21).

Whereas, nationally, the cost of energy is constantly increasing, our energy needs are growing faster than our domestic sources are able to provide, demand for electricity has grown more than 17 percent in the past decade, and we continue to import more than one-half of our domestic oil supply; and

Whereas, over the past 3 years, America's energy consumption has increased by roughly 4 percent, while domestic energy production has decreased by roughly 1 percent; and

Whereas, increasingly, our energy supply is coming from other countries; and

Whereas, to meet our energy needs and strengthen our national security, we must become less dependent on foreign oil; and

Whereas, our nation's present level of dependence on foreign sources of energy negatively impacts the nation's trade balance; and

Whereas, development of renewable energy sources has a positive effect on our nation's balance of trade; and

Whereas, the President's agenda includes an energy bill which targets four important objectives, namely encouraging the use of technology to improve conservation, encouraging more production at home in environmentally sensitive ways, diversifying our energy supply by developing alternative sources of energy, and finding better, more reliable ways to deliver energy to consumers; and

Whereas, in Wisconsin, sun, wind, water, and forests are plentiful and can be harnessed to supply energy; and

Whereas, Wisconsin is recognized as a leading state for its protection of our nation's precious natural resources; and

Whereas, in Wisconsin, 16 million acres out of 32 million acres are covered with woodland; and

Whereas, wood and switchgrass are renewable resources and can be used for fuel and energy; and

Whereas, harvesting wood for fuel and energy will help Wisconsin landowners achieve sustainable forestry goals; and

Whereas, technology to convert farm waste, also in plentiful supply in Wisconsin, into energy is being developed; and

Whereas, Wisconsin's vast farmlands can grow crops, such as soybeans, which can be converted into biodiesel to fuel our nation's vehicles; and

Whereas, our current dependence upon petroleum cannot continue indefinitely, because oil is not a limitless supply, and therefore we must develop renewable sources of energy to provide an energy-secure future for generations to come; and

Whereas, ethanol, biodiesel, biomass, biogas, solar, geothermal, and photovoltaic are all natural renewable resources important to Wisconsin and its future; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the legislature encourages the diversification of our energy supply through the development of alternative sources of energy; and, be it further

Resolved, That the week of the summer solstice each year be designated as Renewable Energy Week and June 21 (the summer solstice) each year be designated as Renewable Energy Day.

Representative John G. Gard
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Alan J. Lasee
President of the Senate

Date

Robert J. Marchant
Senate Chief Clerk