



## 1997 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 12

January 15, 1998 - Introduced by Representatives FOTI and JENSEN.

1     **Relating to:** commending Ruth Doyle's championship of women's rights and her  
2           accomplishments.

3           Whereas, in 1951 Ruth Doyle, who was then a member of the assembly,  
4     introduced a resolution condemning the man who was then the sergeant-at-arms  
5     for refusing to hire a woman as a messenger; and

6           Whereas, although Ms. Doyle and her ally, representative Sylvia Raihle, were  
7     defeated in their efforts to secure employment for the applicant, Thelma Windrow,  
8     they made a strong stand for women's rights and against discrimination; and

9           Whereas, on this day when the assembly elects the first woman to serve as its  
10    sergeant-at-arms, it is appropriate to recognize Ruth Doyle's support of, and  
11    advocacy for, women, both in this body and in general, as well as her own  
12    accomplishments; and

13           Whereas, Ruth Doyle was the 4th generation of her family to serve in the  
14    Wisconsin legislature, following in the footsteps of her father, grandfather and  
15    great-grandfather; and

1           Whereas, she was elected to the assembly in 1948 and was reelected in 1950;  
2           and

3           Whereas, she also served on the Dane County Board from 1957 to 1960 and was  
4           the only woman on that board, and she served on the Madison School Board, from  
5           1964 to 1973, serving as the board’s first woman president, and the latter service was  
6           recognized by naming the school district’s administration building for her; and

7           Whereas, between 1961 and 1969 she worked in the Dean of Women’s office at  
8           the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and she worked at the University of  
9           Wisconsin–Madison law school from 1969 to 1979, where she established the  
10          Five–Year Program which greatly increased the number of minority law students at  
11          the University of Wisconsin–Madison; and

12          Whereas, in addition to her professional accomplishments, Ruth Doyle was a  
13          loving and devoted wife to Judge James Doyle and a loving and devoted mother to  
14          their 4 children, all of whom became attorneys: Mary, Catherine, Anne and  
15          Wisconsin’s Attorney General Jim Doyle; now, therefore, be it

16                 ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** the members of the assembly today both elect  
17          their first woman sergent–at–arms and salute one of her forerunners, Ruth Doyle;  
18          and, be it further

19                 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution  
20          to Ruth Doyle.

21

(END)