

State of Misconsin 2007 - 2008 LEGISLATURE

## **2007 SENATE RESOLUTION 14**

February 27, 2008 – Introduced by Senators TAYLOR and COGGS. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1	<b>Relating to:</b> commending the life and public service of Jarius Anthony Josey.
2	Whereas, Jarius Anthony Josey was born to Anthony and Patience Josey on
3	January 6, 1876, in Augusta, Georgia; and
4	Whereas, he graduated from Atlanta University in 1905; and
5	Whereas, he married Chestena Carmichael in 1905 and moved to Madison
6	shortly thereafter; and
7	Whereas, he enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School class
8	of 1910, becoming one of the first African Americans to attend the University of
9	Wisconsin Law School; and
10	Whereas, in 1915, he helped to found Mount Zion Baptist Church in Madison,
11	where he later served as chairman of its board of trustees; and
12	Whereas, in 1916, he helped found the Wisconsin Weekly Blade, where he
13	worked as editor-in-chief for three decades, taking positions on almost every issue
14	of importance to African Americans in Wisconsin; and

1	Whereas, he eventually moved to Milwaukee, and there established the <i>Blade</i>
2	as Wisconsin's first successful African American newspaper; and
3	Whereas, in the pages of the Blade, he courageously advocated against
4	discrimination in juries, the military, and government employment; and
5	Whereas, his editorials were instrumental in opening up the political process
6	and exposing political discrimination around Wisconsin and America; and
7	Whereas, after his career with the <i>Blade</i> , he continued to serve his community
8	by opening a real estate business dedicated to helping minority home buyers; and
9	Whereas, as a dedicated servant of Milwaukee, he helped to organize and
10	further Milwaukee's Northside YMCA; and
11	Whereas, he earned such acclaim as a champion for equal rights and
12	opportunity that he was asked to sit on dozens of Milwaukee committees regarding
13	interracial affairs and was consulted by sitting United States Presidents; and
14	Whereas, he died on July 7, 1957, after a lifetime devoted to improving the
15	status of Wisconsin's African American population; and
16	Whereas, the adoption of this senate resolution is supported not only by the
17	senate, but also by members of the assembly, including specifically Representatives
18	Sheridan, Schneider, Young, Grigsby, Sinicki, Mason, Fields, Benedict, Turner, and
19	Hintz; now, therefore, be it
20	<b>Resolved by the senate, That</b> the members of the Wisconsin senate do hereby
21	honor and celebrate the groundbreaking life and accomplishments of Jarius Anthony
22	Josey.
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(END)