



## 2009 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 80

April 21, 2010 – Introduced by Senator DECKER, cosponsored by Representative SEIDEL. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** the years of public service of Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor Barbara  
2         Lawton.

3         Whereas, Barbara Lawton was born in Wisconsin, graduated from Waterford  
4     Union High School and Lawrence University, and earned a master's degree in  
5     Spanish from UW-Madison. In 2008, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws  
6     from Lawrence University and an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from the  
7     Milwaukee Institute of Arts and Design. She took office as Wisconsin's 43rd  
8     lieutenant governor on January 3, 2003, and was re-elected in 2006; and

9         Whereas, Lawton's route to becoming Wisconsin's first woman elected  
10     lieutenant governor was built upon a foundation of public service. As a founder of  
11     the Greater Green Bay Area Community Foundation and the Multicultural Center,  
12     as an advisor to Entrepreneurs of Color, in service on various boards, including that  
13     of the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College Foundation, she is firmly grounded in  
14     community; and

1           Whereas, Lawton has focused her efforts as lieutenant governor on economic  
2           development and has been called “Wisconsin’s green leader” for her Green Economy  
3           Agenda, prompting Madison’s WISC-TV editorial board to dub her “one of our best.”  
4           Her efforts earned her an invitation to work with Oxfam America and the Nobel  
5           Women’s Initiative on their women and global climate change projects; and

6           Whereas, Lawton recently completed her tenure as chair of the National  
7           Lieutenant Governors Association and leads a multiagency project to expand access  
8           to opportunity in Wisconsin for disadvantaged and minority-owned and  
9           women-owned businesses. She is also honorary chair of Wisconsin United for  
10          Mental Health and led a task force on women and depression; and

11          Whereas, Lawton serves on the National Leadership Council for the American  
12          Association of Colleges and Universities, leading Wisconsin’s pilot of their ten-year  
13          national campaign to champion the deep public value of higher education for  
14          individual students and for a nation dependent on economic creativity; and

15          Whereas, as chair of the Wisconsin Arts Board, Lawton led the agency to move  
16          Wisconsin’s creative economy forward through development of a strong arts and  
17          culture industry in every part of the state and her leadership and the work of the Arts  
18          Board were recognized with three consecutive invitations to the National Arts Policy  
19          Roundtable; and

20          Whereas, Lawton has served the people of Wisconsin with great dignity and  
21          distinction, and her actions on the important issues of the day reflect her confidence  
22          in the people of Wisconsin as the state’s greatest resource; now, therefore, be it

23                 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the  
24          Wisconsin legislature honor Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton and

1 her family, including husband Cal, son Joseph, and daughter Amanda, for her years  
2 of dedicated and passionate service on behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin.

3 (END)