



2017 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 35

April 13, 2017 - Introduced by Senators WIRCH, SHILLING, MILLER, RINGHAND, L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, ERPENBACH, HANSEN, JOHNSON, C. LARSON, RISSER and VINEHOUT, cosponsored by Representatives SINICKI, KULP, OHNSTAD, BOWEN, BARCA, HESSELBEIN, SPREITZER, SHANKLAND, BILLINGS, CONSIDINE, FIELDS, GOYKE, HEBL, MASON, MILROY, RIEMER, SARGENT, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, WACHS and ZAMARRIPA. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming Workers' Memorial Day.

2 Whereas, Workers' Memorial Day is observed every year on April 28; and

3 Whereas, it is a day to honor those workers who have died on the job, to
4 acknowledge the grievous suffering experienced by families and communities, and
5 to recommit ourselves to the fight for safe and healthful workplaces for all workers;
6 and

7 Whereas, it is also the day the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
8 (OSHA) was established in 1971. Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of
9 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their
10 workers. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and
11 women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education, and
12 assistance; and

13 Whereas, events commemorating this day are being held across the nation and
14 in Wisconsin events will be held in Madison, Milwaukee, and Wisconsin Dells; and

15 Whereas, in 2015 alone, 104 Wisconsin workers died in the workplace; and

1 Whereas, of the 4,386 fatal work injuries nationwide in 2015, the highest
2 concentration occurred in two areas, with 765 fatalities involving
3 transportation-related occupations and 937 fatalities in the construction trades;
4 and

5 Whereas, 118 police officers and fire fighters were killed in 2015 along with 570
6 fatalities that occurred in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; and

7 Whereas, nationwide, every day the families of 12 workers are informed that
8 their loved ones were killed while at work, and the rate of fatal injuries for U.S.
9 workers in 2015 was 3.4 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers; and

10 Whereas, the annual observance of Workers' Memorial Day on April 28
11 provides us with the opportunity to remember and reflect on the lives of those we
12 have lost and rededicate ourselves to efforts to make all workplaces safer; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the legislature
15 proclaims April 28, 2017, as Workers' Memorial Day and asks all Wisconsinites to
16 take time to reflect on the men and women we lost and to rededicate ourselves to
17 making workplaces safer; and, be it further

18 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution to
19 the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

20

(END)