



2017 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 80

October 18, 2017 - Introduced by Senators L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, MOULTON and RINGHAND, cosponsored by Representatives SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BERCEAU, BROSTOFF, CONSIDINE, FIELDS, GENRICH, GOYKE, HESSELBEIN, HORLACHER, MASON, PETRYK, SINICKI, SPREITZER, VRUWINK and SUBECK. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming October 6, 2017, as Urban Agriculture and Manufacturing
2 Day in Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, more than 2.3 million people in America live in a food desert or in an
4 urban area that lacks access to fresh produce. The national average of a five to ten
5 day lag between transportation and consumption leads to a 30 to 50 percent loss in
6 nutritional value; and

7 Whereas, industry estimates show U.S. local food sales totaled at least \$12
8 billion in 2014, up from \$5 billion in 2008, and experts anticipate that value to hit
9 \$20 billion by 2019; and

10 Whereas, numbers also show that these opportunities are helping to drive job
11 growth in agriculture, increase entrepreneurship, and expand food access and
12 choice. A 2013 review by the University of California found the biggest barrier for
13 urban agriculture was building social capital; and

14 Whereas, due to neighborhood gardens grown on repurposed lots, innovative
15 mobile markets, and intensive hydroponic and aquaculture operations, urban food

1 production is rapidly growing into a mature business sector in cities across the
2 country; and

3 Whereas, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that exercise
4 and gardening reduces crime. Urban agriculture builds green space, safe space, and
5 a sense of pride in a neighborhood; and

6 Whereas, some urban farms focus on small-scale intensive production
7 techniques to raise crops and livestock for market and may also be structured around
8 social aspects related to urban agriculture, which include food security, building
9 communities, and education; and

10 Whereas, the legislature has an opportunity to recognize the importance of
11 urban agriculture and manufacturing; now, therefore, be it

12 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the legislature
13 hereby proclaims October 6, 2017, as Urban Agriculture and Manufacturing Day in
14 Wisconsin.

15 (END)