



## 2005 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 30

April 15, 2005 – Introduced by Representatives HEBL, BOYLE, TRAVIS, LOTHIAN, GRONEMUS, BERCEAU, JESKEWITZ, HAHN, SHERIDAN, LEHMAN, POCAN, POPE-ROBERTS, TURNER, SEIDEL and ALBERS, cosponsored by Senators MILLER, COGGS, RISSER, HANSEN and ERPENBACH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** the life and public service of Marian L. Thompson.

2             Whereas, Marian L. Thompson was born on November 23, 1917, in Palatine,  
3 Illinois, and died on March 8, 2005, at her home near Stoughton, Wisconsin; and

4             Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was a lifelong feminist activist who worked tirelessly  
5 for women’s issues and political and social concerns; and

6             Whereas, Mrs. Thompson grew up in Syracuse, New York. She studied at  
7 Mount Holyoke College, where she received a BA and MA in philosophy. Afterwards,  
8 Marion studied at UW–Madison under Max Otto and Carol Bogholt; and

9             Whereas, Mrs. Thompson met and married former Wisconsin State Senator  
10 Carl W. Thompson from Stoughton, on October 3, 1942, and celebrated 60 years  
11 together until his death in 2002; and

12             Whereas, Mrs. Thompson began a 27-year career with the University of  
13 Wisconsin–Extension as a specialist and later a professor in women’s education in  
14 the department of family living, working on a variety of innovative programs for  
15 women and families; and

1           Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was a member of the Governor’s Commission on the  
2 Status of Women and chair of the Wisconsin Women’s Network, intermittently  
3 serving as their newsletter editor. She was a member of the Dane County League  
4 of Women Voters for more than 50 years, cochair of the Advisory Committee on  
5 Women Offenders of the Wisconsin Division of Corrections, charter member of the  
6 ARC House board, and member of the Dane County Adult Services Committee; and

7           Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was a staunch advocate for human rights and civil  
8 liberties, and she wrote and edited numerous publications on marital property  
9 reform, displaced homemakers, women and poverty, Native American women and  
10 girls, and childcare issues; and

11           Whereas, Mrs. Thompson served on the Stoughton school board for 21 years  
12 and was a leader in establishing girls’ sports teams; and

13           Whereas, upon retiring from UW–Madison, she served on the board of directors  
14 for Independent Living, and was active in PLATO and the Prairie Unitarian Society;  
15 and

16           Whereas, Mrs. Thompson also continued her love of learning by taking classes  
17 in art history at the UW–Madison and became a docent at both the Elvehjem Art  
18 Center and the Madison Art Center. She had a lifelong passion for animals and  
19 reading and writing, and enjoyed hiking, skating, cross–country skiing, and  
20 swimming; now, therefore be it

21           ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the  
22 Wisconsin legislature commend the devoted public service Marian L. Thompson  
23 contributed to this state and her community, express their sorrow at her death, and  
24 extend condolences to her family and friends; and, be it further

