



## 2009 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 53

October 26, 2009 - Introduced by Senators PLALE, SULLIVAN, LAZICH, A. LASEE, OLSEN, KANAVAS, TAYLOR, JAUCH, KEDZIE, ERPENBACH, S. FITZGERALD, SCHULTZ and RISSER, cosponsored by Representatives MONTGOMERY, HUEBSCH, SHILLING, HINTZ, GUNDRUM, SUDER, TOWNSEND, NEWCOMER, SINICKI, SOLETSKI, KESTELL, NASS, BIES, DAVIS, J. FITZGERALD, GOTTLIEB, A. OTT, RHOADES, STONE, VAN ROY and VOS. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** honoring the life and public service of Joseph P. Mettner.

2             Whereas, Joseph P. Mettner was born on December 21, 1963, in De Pere,  
3     Wisconsin, and died on October 3, 2009; and

4             Whereas, Joe attended Notre Dame Elementary School in 1978, graduated as  
5     valedictorian from Abbott Pennings High School in DePere in 1982, and received a  
6     bachelor's degree in business administration in 1986, as well as a juris doctorate in  
7     1992, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and

8             Whereas, Joe had a passion and commitment to public service and, after  
9     working for Governor Tommy Thompson during law school, was appointed to serve  
10    as a commissioner on the Tax Appeals Commission in 1993 where he served until  
11    1996; and

12            Whereas, in 1996, Joe was appointed as one of three members, and later served  
13    as chairman, of the Public Service Commission; and

14            Whereas, Joe's leadership at the Public Service Commission was most critical  
15    in the 1990's when Wisconsin was facing a crisis in its existing energy reserve, and

1 Joe successfully worked through and approved projects to meet the public demand  
2 for vital system reliability; and

3 Whereas, Joe was appointed a leader within the National Association of  
4 Regulatory Utility Commissioners on public policy to restructure the  
5 telecommunications industry in order to promote competition in the telephone  
6 market; and

7 Whereas, in 2003, Joe left the Public Service Commission to form his own  
8 utility-regulation consulting firm, Found Lake Consulting; and

9 Whereas, Joe cultivated a deep understanding of the complicated utilities  
10 industry, and whether his time was devoted to telecommunications policy or tax  
11 policy, he was a leader and a force for the public interest; and

12 Whereas, Joe married Michelle Intrater in 2002 and was a dedicated husband  
13 and father to their two daughters, Sara Therese and Kelsey Emma; and

14 Whereas, Joe was the consummate storyteller, lover of literature and poetry,  
15 devoted friend and brother, man of nuanced humor, and outdoor enthusiast and will  
16 be dearly missed by those whose lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

17 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the  
18 Wisconsin legislature commend the devoted public service that Joseph P. Mettner  
19 contributed to his state and community, mourn his passing, and extend their  
20 condolences to his family and loved ones; and, be it further

21 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint  
22 resolution to Joseph P. Mettner’s wife, Michelle, and to their daughters, Sara and  
23 Kelsey.

24

(END)