



2023 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 106

January 23, 2024 - Introduced by Representatives BODDEN, GUSTAFSON, GREEN, MURPHY, RETTINGER, O'CONNOR, PENTERMAN, SCHMIDT and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators STROEBEL, CABRAL-GUEVARA, COWLES, FEYEN and JACQUE. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** recognizing the importance of sturgeon to Wisconsin and designating
2 the second Saturday of February in 2024 as State Sturgeon Spearing Day.

3 Whereas, Wisconsin is blessed with a robust sturgeon population, contributing
4 significantly to our state's biodiversity and cultural heritage; and

5 Whereas, the cultural impact of sturgeon, including the practice of sturgeon
6 spearing, holds deep historical and traditional value for the residents of Wisconsin;
7 and

8 Whereas, the sale of sturgeon spearing tags and hook and line tags generate
9 funds for sturgeon research, having a substantial positive effect around the country
10 in terms of sturgeon conservation and longevity; and

11 Whereas, it is imperative to address potential threats to the sturgeon
12 population while maintaining a balance between conservation efforts and cultural
13 practices; and

14 Whereas, the Department of Natural Resources plays a crucial role in
15 managing and preserving our state's wildlife resources; now, therefore, be it

1 **Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That** the Wisconsin
2 State Legislature acknowledges the significance of Wisconsin's strong sturgeon
3 population and the cultural importance of sturgeon-related activities; and, be it
4 further

5 **Resolved, That** the Wisconsin State Legislature does not support listing the
6 lake sturgeon as endangered in Wisconsin or the Lake Winnebago region; and, be it
7 further

8 **Resolved, That** the second Saturday of February in 2024 will be designated as
9 State Sturgeon Spearing Day; and, be it further

10 **Resolved, That** the Wisconsin State Legislature requests the Department of
11 Natural Resources continue to collaborate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in
12 implementing proactive measures to ensure the continued well-being of the
13 sturgeon population; and, be it further

14 **Resolved, That** the Wisconsin State Legislature urges the Department of
15 Natural Resources to work diligently towards maintaining the sturgeon's status
16 outside the endangered species list in Wisconsin, fostering a balance that preserves
17 both the natural environment and cultural traditions of Wisconsin.

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(END)