



## 2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 121

January 28, 2022 - Introduced by Representatives KRUG, MURPHY, ARMSTRONG, BALDEH, BILLINGS, CABRAL-GUEVARA, CONLEY, DITTRICH, DUCHOW, EDMING, HESSELBEIN, JAMES, LOUDENBECK, MURSAU, NOVAK, PENTERMAN, PETRYK, SHELTON, SINICKI, SPREITZER, SUBECK, TRANEL, VRUWINK and WITKE, cosponsored by Senators DARLING, ROTH, BALLWEG, BERNIER, BEWLEY, CARPENTER, COWLES, FELZKOWSKI, KOOYENGA, PETROWSKI, WANGGAARD and WIMBERGER. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** honoring Governor Tommy Thompson as he prepares to depart from  
2             his role as interim president of the University of Wisconsin System.

3             Whereas, the University of Wisconsin System found itself in need of a president  
4     in the spring of 2020, having conducted an unsuccessful search for a president; and

5             Whereas, in June 2020, the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin  
6     System announced that former Wisconsin governor Tommy Thompson had agreed  
7     to assume the presidency of the UW System on an interim basis; and

8             Whereas, Governor Thompson filled this role in a time of extraordinary  
9     difficulty for higher education as campuses, students, faculty, and staff dealt with the  
10    coronavirus pandemic in addition to many other needs and challenges; and

11            Whereas, in 2020 and 2021, Governor Thompson provided much-needed  
12    leadership to and advocacy for the University of Wisconsin System, its campuses and  
13    programs, and its students, staff, and faculty; and

14            Whereas, Governor Thompson assumed the role as interim University of  
15    Wisconsin System president at the age of 78 years following a long career of public

1 service to the people and the State of Wisconsin, which service began in 1966 when  
2 he joined the Wisconsin National Guard and successfully ran for a seat in the  
3 Wisconsin State Assembly; and

4 Whereas, Governor Thompson would go on to serve 20 years in the Wisconsin  
5 State Assembly, 14 years as governor of Wisconsin, and 4 years as secretary of the  
6 United States Department of Health and Human Services before accepting the  
7 interim presidency of the UW System in 2020; now, therefore, be it

8 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin  
9 State Legislature does hereby recognize and thank Governor Tommy Thompson for  
10 his exemplary service as interim president of the University of Wisconsin System  
11 and extends its best wishes to Governor Thompson as he departs this role.

12 (END)