



## 2023 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 119

February 19, 2024 - Introduced by Senators PFAFF, ROYS, CARPENTER, SPREITZER, BALLWEG, L. JOHNSON, WIRCH and SMITH, cosponsored by Representatives GOYKE, C. ANDERSON, J. ANDERSON, ANDRACA, BALDEH, BARE, CONLEY, CONSIDINE, DITTRICH, DOYLE, DRAKE, EMERSON, HONG, JACOBSON, JOERS, MADISON, MYERS, NEUBAUER, NOVAK, ORTIZ-VELEZ, RATCLIFF, SHANKLAND, SHELTON, SINICKI, SNODGRASS, SPIROS, STUBBS, SUBECK, TRANEL and VINING. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Herb Kohl.

2             Whereas, Herb Kohl grew up in the Sherman Park neighborhood of Milwaukee,  
3     Wisconsin; and

4             Whereas, Herb Kohl earned a bachelor's degree from the University of  
5     Wisconsin, which is now home to the basketball and hockey center that bears his  
6     name as well as the Herb Kohl Public Service Research Competition to advance  
7     evidence-based policy and governance research by faculty members and students,  
8     which were supported through his gifts to the university; and

9             Whereas, as president of the Kohl's Corporation, Herb Kohl followed in his  
10     father's footsteps and built with his brothers a chain of over 50 Kohl's grocery stores  
11     across the Midwest; and

12             Whereas, when the Milwaukee Bucks were put up for sale and in danger of  
13     being bought and moved to another city, Herb Kohl stepped forward in 1985 and  
14     bought the team with the promise to Bucks fans that the team would never leave—a

1 promise he fulfilled when the time came to sell the team in 2014, donating  
2 \$100,000,000 to help build a new arena for the community; and

3       Whereas, in 1990, Herb Kohl started the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation,  
4 which has provided more than \$34,000,000 in grants and scholarships to Wisconsin  
5 students, teachers, and schools; and

6       Whereas, Herb Kohl answered a call to public service in 1988 and ran for the  
7 U.S. Senate, with a commitment to being “nobody’s senator but yours” and working  
8 across party lines for the people of the state he loved; and

9       Whereas, Herb Kohl served Wisconsin in the U.S. Senate for 24 years, bringing  
10 his business experience to his senate office and treating his more than 5,000,000  
11 Wisconsin constituents as his customers; and

12       Whereas, Herb Kohl championed issues important for the people of Wisconsin,  
13 fighting every day for dairy farmers, working to protect kids from the threat of gun  
14 violence, helping seniors secure and keep high-quality health care, and supporting  
15 education at all levels, from early childhood through adults attending technical  
16 colleges and universities; and

17       Whereas, throughout his senate tenure, Herb Kohl championed initiatives to  
18 get individuals, families, and communities the health insurance and care they  
19 needed, focusing on the most vulnerable—children and seniors—and the most  
20 difficult to reach—rural communities; and

21       Whereas, Herb Kohl’s office assisted Wisconsinites through individual  
22 casework for more than two decades, earning a reputation as having one of the best  
23 customer service operations in the U.S. Senate; and

24       Whereas, Herb Kohl touched an incalculable number of lives and showed an  
25 innate modesty and humility rare in politics and business; and

