

1999 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 8

May 19, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives PLALE and SUDER. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Francis Conway.

2 Whereas, Francis Conway was born on March 5, 1902, to Michael and
3 Catherine Conway in Lyndon Station, Wisconsin, and died March 3, 1999, in Stanley,
4 Wisconsin; and

5 Whereas, Mr. Conway graduated from Mauston High School, was assistant
6 cashier at Lyndon State Bank, and was a state bank examiner; and

7 Whereas, in the 1920s, Mr. Conway was instrumental in creating Thorp
8 Finance Corporation, which started with an investment of \$5,000, and eventually
9 grew into a multimillion dollar company and one of the largest consumer loan firms
10 in the Midwest; and

11 Whereas, as chairman of Thorp Finance Corporation, Mr. Conway kept the
12 company headquarters in Thorp until he retired in 1969, when the firm had 137 loan
13 offices in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri; and

14 Whereas, Mr. Conway served on the Consumer Credit Review Board, the
15 Banking Review Board, the Marquette University Board, as a delegate to

1 Democratic national conventions from the time of President Franklin Roosevelt
2 through the presidency of Lyndon Johnson; and

3 Whereas, Mr. Conway was past president of the American Finance Conference
4 and the American Industrial Bankers Association, and was chosen as “Irishman of
5 the Year” by the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin; and

6 Whereas, Mr. Conway and his wife, Philomene, were active in the local
7 community and donated a library building and a park to Thorp; now, therefore, be
8 it

9 ***Resolved, That*** the members of the Wisconsin assembly commend Mr. Francis
10 Conway’s many years of devoted public service, express their sorrow at his death and
11 extend their condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

12 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this resolution
13 to Mr. Conway’s wife, Philomene; to his children, Mary Elizabeth “Mitzi”, Rosanne,
14 Catherine, Jane and Connaught; and to his brother, Bernard.

15 (END)