

## 2001 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 31

1     **Relating to:** honoring the life of Ben Barkin.

2             Whereas, Ben Barkin, master of promotions who brought Milwaukee America's  
3 national treasure, the Great Circus Parade, was born in Milwaukee on June 4, 1915,  
4 and graduated from Milwaukee North Division High School; and

5             Whereas, during World War II, he made Milwaukee the model for the nation for  
6 war-effort fund raising; and

7             Whereas, in 1945, he founded what was to become the largest public relations  
8 firm in the state and was later voted best publicist in the country by America's largest  
9 newspapers; and

10            Whereas, in 1963, Ben Barkin developed Milwaukee's Great Circus Parade,  
11 now the largest parade of its kind in the world, featuring rare antique wagons, wild  
12 animals, and clowns; and

13            Whereas, Ben Barkin was a life-long advocate for civil rights and religious  
14 harmony, who received the national B'nai B'rith humanitarian award and a  
15 brotherhood award from the Wisconsin Conference of Christians and Jews; and

