

2001 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 39

1 **Relating to:** the life and community service of Leo Frigo.

2 Whereas, Leo Frigo was the 13th of 16 children in his family; graduated from
3 Guardian Angels Boarding School in Oneida, Wisconsin, and St. Norbert High
4 School in De Pere, Wisconsin; and studied dairy technology at Iowa State University,
5 Ames; and

6 Whereas, he was a Trappist monk, a Korean War veteran, a husband to Fran
7 Chapman Frigo since 1958, and a father of 5 children; and

8 Whereas, his community involvement included taking on leadership and
9 volunteer roles with the Green Bay Downtown Rotary Club, the St. Vincent De Paul
10 Green Bay District Council, the Green Bay Symphony, the Green Bay Sierra Club,
11 Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, the Abbot
12 Pennings Council of the Knights of Columbus, the VFW, and the Prison Ministry of
13 the Green Bay Correctional Institute; and

1 Whereas, his working career was spent in the Italian cheese industry where he
2 worked as plant manager, director of operations, and corporate treasurer and retired
3 as president of Frigo Cheese Corporation in 1983; and

4 Whereas, his desire upon retirement was to devote the remainder of his life to
5 apostolic work; and

6 Whereas, Leo Frigo spent the first few months of his retirement assisting
7 parolees by taking them to job interviews and assisting in their rehabilitation; and

8 Whereas, this apostolic work eventually led him to create Paul's Pantry, a
9 private food pantry for the needy in Green Bay, which opened on February 14, 1984;
10 and

11 Whereas, Leo Frigo's selfless devotion to feeding the hungry included going into
12 stores' dumpsters until local grocers finally relented to start giving him food instead
13 of throwing it away; and

14 Whereas, his tenacity coupled with his business acumen and love for helping
15 the poor over the past 17 years has built one of the largest food-rescue programs for
16 the needy in the nation, distributing an average 300,000 pounds of food per month
17 and 5 million pounds of food last year alone; and

18 Whereas, Leo Frigo died Tuesday, February 13, from injuries suffered in a
19 traffic accident while on the way to deliver food to a disabled friend; now, therefore,
20 be it

21 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
22 Wisconsin legislature salute the life and community service of Leo Frigo and along
23 with the Frigo family, friends, and community mourn his passing; and, be it further

