

2001 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

February 13, 2001 – Introduced by Senators BURKE, FARROW, GEORGE, MOORE, GROBSCHMIDT, HUELSMAN and ROSENZWEIG, cosponsored by Representatives PLALE, WALKER, COLON, CULLEN and FOTI. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** honoring the life and career of Coach Al McGuire by recognizing
2 February 22, 2001, as Al McGuire Day.

3 Whereas, on Friday, January 26, 2001, at the age of 72, legendary college
4 basketball coach and announcer Alfred Emanuel McGuire passed away after a
5 courageous battle with illness; and

6 Whereas, Al McGuire, a New York native, began his college basketball career
7 at St. John's University in 1947 and, upon graduation in 1951, went on to play
8 professionally for 3 seasons with the New York Knicks; and

9 Whereas, Al McGuire began his head coaching career at Belmont Abbey
10 College, North Carolina, in 1957, and then came to Marquette University in 1964;
11 and

12 Whereas, under the coaching of Al McGuire, Marquette's basketball team was
13 transformed into a group of firebrand players and the student body became
14 enthusiastic and dedicated supporters; and

1 Whereas, McGuire helped promote the ideal of a student athlete, and had an
2 impressive record of having 92% of his players graduate; and

3 Whereas, through the efforts of his team a rally point was provided for the
4 students which helped strengthen the sense of community on the Marquette campus;
5 and

6 Whereas, Coach McGuire brought his team to 11 consecutive post-season
7 tournaments and 20 wins a season; and

8 Whereas, the Warriors appeared in the NIT finals in 1967, won the NIT
9 championship in 1970, and won the NCAA finals in 1974; and

10 Whereas, in the 1976–1977 season, his final season as coach, Al McGuire put
11 the finishing touch on his coaching career with a NCAA National Championship; and

12 Whereas, after 13 years, with an amazing record of 295 wins and 80 losses, after
13 creating a national power in college basketball, this two time Coach of the Year ended
14 his coaching at Marquette University; and

15 Whereas, McGuire could not stay away from the sport that he loved, and began
16 a 22 year career broadcasting college basketball for NBC and CBS and Marquette
17 University; and

18 Whereas, in 1992 he received basketball's highest honor, election to the Joe
19 Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame; and

20 Whereas, McGuire served as chairman of the board of the President's Council
21 on Physical Fitness; and

22 Whereas, in 1978, Al McGuire founded Al's Run in Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
23 which has raised more than \$4 million for the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin; and

24 Whereas, in his adopted state of Wisconsin, he has been asked to run for the
25 U.S. Senate and the Governor's office; and

