2005 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 27

1	Relating to: honoring Pope John Paul II.
2	Whereas, Karol Jozef Wojtyla was born in Wadowice, Poland, on May 18, 1920;
3	and
4	Whereas, he made his First Holy Communion at age 9 and was confirmed at age
5	18. He studied in the clandestine seminary of Krakow, during World War II, and was
6	ordained a priest in 1946; and
7	Whereas, Karol Wojtyla continued his studies and earned doctoral degrees in
8	philosophy and theology in the 1950s and served as a professor at the Catholic
9	University of Lublin; and
10	Whereas, on January 13, 1964, he was nominated Archbishop of Krakow by
11	Pope Paul VI, who made him a cardinal on June 26, 1967, in the Sistine Chapel; and
12	Whereas, on October 16, 1978, Karol Wojtyla began his pontificate as Pope John
13	Paul II; and
14	Whereas, Pope John Paul II became the church's 264th pope and the first
15	non–Italian pope in 455 years; and

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1	Whereas, Pope John Paul II used his pontificate to become a world leader for
2	freedom by becoming a voice against communism, oppression, and tyranny; and
3	Whereas, in the 1980s, Pope John Paul II helped energize the movement for
4	freedom in Poland by vocally supporting the striking dock workers at the Gdansk
5	Shipyard. That strike helped bring freedom to Poland and began the downfall of
6	communism; and
7	Whereas, Pope John Paul II became the most traveled pope in history and
8	became the first pope to officially visit Israel; and
9	Whereas, Pope John Paul II journeyed more than three-quarters of a million
10	miles meeting with other major world leaders during his papacy; and
11	Whereas, Pope John Paul II was a tireless voice for freedom having personally
12	survived fascism, communism, and terrorism; and
13	Whereas, Pope John Paul II, in his 26 years as the head of the Catholic Church,
14	became more than just a spiritual leader for people of his faith, but also a moral and
15	influential leader for the entire world. He has been a voice for peace and human
16	dignity, standing up for those who had no voice; and
17	Whereas, Pope John Paul II met his great reward on April 2, 2005, at the age
18	of 84; now, therefore, be it
19	Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the
20	Wisconsin legislature commend the life of Pope John Paul II, express their sorrow
21	at his death, and extend condolences; and, be it further
22	Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint
23	resolution to the Vatican and to the Most Reverend Archbishop Timothy Dolan at the
24	Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

(END)