

2005 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 13

1 **Relating to:** commending assembly records clerk Ken Stigler on the occasion of his
2 retirement from a 34–year career of outstanding service to the Wisconsin
3 assembly and the people of Wisconsin.

4 Whereas, Ken Stigler, records clerk of the Wisconsin state assembly, has been
5 a dedicated employee of the assembly since January 14, 1971; and

6 Whereas, Ken began his legislative career as a journal clerk and became the
7 records clerk in 1988, serving in that position for 17 years, and becoming a master
8 of both; and

9 Whereas, he has faithfully and enthusiastically discharged his responsibilities
10 both as journal clerk and as records clerk of the Wisconsin state assembly and has
11 never missed one session day over all the years; and

12 Whereas, Ken’s tenure in the assembly encompasses 17 full legislative sessions
13 under the direction of 10 assembly speakers and 10 chief clerks; and

14 Whereas, Ken is known for his ability to work long hours on session days, the
15 “honor” that he was first “awarded” on New Year’s Day 1973 when the assembly

1 decided to adopt the rule changes on Inauguration Day, a session day that lasted
2 until midnight; and

3 Whereas, his professionalism and evenhandedness enabled him to earn the
4 respect of all members, allowing him to serve both Democratic and Republican
5 majorities with aplomb during his long tenure; and

6 Whereas, Ken epitomized the role of keeper of the institutional memory and has
7 been called the dean of legislative minutia, and his career reflected a love for the
8 legislative institution and a commitment to the legislative process; and

9 Whereas, he was in the forefront of automating the legislative process and
10 increasing efficiency in the assembly chief clerk's office, and he played a role in the
11 migration from ATMS/Stairs to TEXT 2000; and

12 Whereas, Ken was involved with the American Society of Legislative Clerks
13 and Secretaries, which honored him in 1997 as a corecipient of the Innovations
14 Award for his work on ComClerk, a computer program developed to aid committee
15 clerks in the Wisconsin legislature in maintaining records and producing reports on
16 legislative activity for their committees; and

17 Whereas, he is recognized as an unsung hero who did his job well without
18 regard for personal recognition; and

19 Whereas, Ken is a family man, twice over, both in regard to his devotion to his
20 wife, Pam, and figure-skating daughter, Amy, and in regard to his extensive
21 legislative family; and

22 Whereas, Ken's appreciation for history and antiques is evidenced by his choice
23 of cars over the years; and

24 Whereas, Ken is an avid Packer and Badger fan even without ever having cable
25 television; and

1 Whereas, Ken will be missed by members of the assembly who relied on him for
2 guidance and information (even those who did not follow his advice); and

3 Whereas, the assembly and his colleagues will miss Ken’s humor, kindness,
4 vast knowledge, and ability to work long hours, and the people of Wisconsin will miss
5 his professional competence, dedication, and attention to detail; now, therefore, be
6 it

7 ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** the members of the Wisconsin assembly, on
8 their own behalfs and on behalf of all of the legislative staff members who have been
9 privileged to work with Ken and who have contributed their sentiments to the
10 drafting of this resolution, express warm appreciation to Ken for his 34 years of
11 valuable and devoted service, salute his integrity, honesty, and love of the legislative
12 institution, and wish him a long, fruitful, healthy, and happy retirement; and, be it
13 further

14 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk, in the presence of the members of the
15 assembly and Ken Stigler’s many appreciative colleagues, shall present a copy of this
16 resolution, along with the invitation of the assembly to visit and share with its
17 members on June evenings of odd-numbered years, to Ken, and to his wife, Pam, and
18 daughter, Amy.

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(END)