

State of Misconsin 2007 - 2008 LEGISLATURE

2007 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

| 1 | Relating to: declaring June 14 Fighting Bob La Follette Day. |
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| 2 | Whereas, Robert Marion La Follette, Sr., commonly known as "Fighting Bob" |
| 3 | La Follette, was born on June 14, 1855, in Primrose, Wisconsin; and |
| 4 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette served three terms in the U.S. house of |
| 5 | representatives, four terms in the U.S. senate, and three terms as Wisconsin's |
| 6 | governor; and |
| 7 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette believed that government could bring |
| 8 | about social and political progress for the greater good of all citizens; and |
| 9 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette strived to rid government of corruption on |
| 10 | all levels and played a critical role in the investigation surrounding the Teapot Dome |
| 11 | scandal; and |
| 12 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette's legacy includes populist policies still |
| 13 | followed today such as public disclosure of campaign contributions, worker's |
| 14 | compensation, direct primary elections, and the establishment of the U.S. |
| 15 | Department of Labor and the Federal Trade Commission; and |

2007 – 2008 Legislature

| 1 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette ran for president of the United States on |
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| 2 | the Progressive ticket in 1924, winning more than 17 percent of the popular vote; and |
| 3 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette believed in the "Wisconsin Idea," the |
| 4 | notion that government should collaborate with the University of Wisconsin to |
| 5 | address serious social and economic problems and applied the "Wisconsin Idea" to |
| 6 | bring about major reforms in banking and railroad regulation, the environment, civil |
| 7 | service, and taxation; and |
| 8 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette was a strong supporter of civil rights and |
| 9 | women's suffrage, earning respect from distinguished Americans such as Frederick |
| 10 | Douglass and Harriet Tubman Upton; and |
| 11 | Whereas, "Fighting Bob" La Follette was selected as one of "Five Outstanding |
| 12 | Senators" by the Special Committee on the U.S. Senate Reception Room in 1957; and |
| 13 | Whereas, Wisconsin's public schools already recognize "Fighting Bob" for his |
| 14 | lasting impact on Wisconsin by recognizing June 14 as "Fighting Bob" La Follette day |
| 15 | as recognized in section 118.02 (7r) of the statutes; now, therefore, be it |
| 16 | Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That June 14 and |
| 17 | subsequent yearly anniversaries shall be considered ""Fighting Bob" La Follette |
| 18 | Day" in Wisconsin. |
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(END)