

## 2007 SENATE RESOLUTION 24

February 27, 2008 – Introduced by Senators COGGS, TAYLOR, CARPENTER, LASSA and ROESSLER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** the life and public service of Reverend Richard Kirkendoll.

2             Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll was a leading voice in the fight for  
3     civil rights during the Open Housing Marches in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the  
4     1960's; and

5             Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll was described as “the Black Moses”  
6     to Father James Groppi’s “White Moses” for their dedication to the Open Housing  
7     Marches, with Reverend Kirkendoll known to participate in every march that took  
8     place; and

9             Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll was particularly known for his  
10    personal protection of children who participated in the marches, including sheltering  
11    them at his church and, at a particularly violent march at the 16th Street Viaduct,  
12    telling a young girl “Come on, baby, get behind me. I’ll protect you”; and

13            Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll lived a life of service to his country  
14    and community prior to the Open Housing Marches, enlisting in the United States

1 Navy during World War II before moving to Milwaukee and serving as a counselor  
2 with ICDP, the Inner City Development Program; and

3 Whereas, the adoption of this senate resolution is supported not only by the  
4 senate, but also by members of the assembly, including specifically Representatives  
5 Young, Grigsby, Turner, Zepnick, Sheridan, and Toles; now, therefore, be it

6 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the members of the Wisconsin senate honor the  
7 life and service of the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll for his dedication in the face of  
8 often extreme adversity to the civil rights and the future of our children of Milwaukee  
9 and for the benefit of his community.

10 (END)