



2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 53

May 12, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives SOLETSKI, NELSON, ZIPPERER, MONTGOMERY, ROTH, HINTZ, BERNARD SCHABER, VAN ROY, TURNER, CULLEN, KERKMAN, MILROY, GRIGSBY, A. OTT and ZIGMUNT, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, COWLES, RISSER and TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of former Congressman Reverend Robert J.
2 Cornell.

3 Whereas, Father Robert J. Cornell was born on December 16, 1919, in
4 Gladstone, Michigan, and died on May 10, 2009, in De Pere, Wisconsin; and

5 Whereas, in 1928 the Cornell family moved to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where
6 Robert became a member of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral parish and was very active
7 in parish affairs; and

8 Whereas, in 1937, he was named the outstanding Catholic boy of Green Bay;
9 and

10 Whereas, Robert J. Cornell joined the Norbertine Order in 1938 and was
11 ordained a priest in the Norbertine Order on June 17, 1944; and

12 Whereas, he received his B.A. degree from St. Norbert College in De Pere,
13 Wisconsin, in 1941, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from The Catholic University of
14 America in Washington, D.C., in 1957; and

1 Whereas, Father Cornell's academic assignments included serving on the
2 faculty at St. Norbert High School and later at Abbot Pennings High School in De
3 Pere, Wisconsin, and Southeast Catholic High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
4 where he was also vice principal; and

5 Whereas, Father Cornell was a professor of history and government at St.
6 Norbert College throughout most of his long teaching career and was the Dean of
7 Students at the college for five years; and

8 Whereas, Father Cornell taught history at The Catholic University in
9 Washington, D.C., and in San Antonio, Texas; and

10 Whereas, Father Cornell was chairman of the 8th Congressional District and
11 was a member of the State Administrative Committee of the Democratic Party of
12 Wisconsin from 1969 to 1974; and

13 Whereas, Father Cornell was elected to the 94th Congress and 95th Congress,
14 serving from January 3, 1975 to January 3, 1979, as the U.S. representative from the
15 8th Congressional District of Wisconsin; and

16 Whereas, while serving in Congress, most of Father Cornell's congressional
17 salary was used for internships in his Washington, D.C., office for residents of
18 northeast Wisconsin and for student aid at all schools of higher education in the 8th
19 Congressional District; and

20 Whereas, his influence and community involvement was not limited to the
21 classroom and politics: Father Cornell directed activities for the youth of the area,
22 especially rock concerts with nationally famous entertainers, and later he handled
23 country and rock shows in Green Bay with the proceeds being used for scholarships
24 for St. Norbert College students and graduates; and

