

2011 Senate Joint Resolution 50

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: the life and public service of Dick Wheeler.

Whereas, Dick Wheeler, the dean of the State Capitol press corps, passed away on November 11, 2011; and

Whereas, Dick Wheeler is survived by his daughter Gwyn Guenther, son-in-law Trevor Guenther, granddaughters Camille and Tabitha, and his longtime companion Diane Harmelink; and

Whereas, Dick, who was originally from Pennsylvania, previously worked for United Press International and Scripps Howard in Michigan and Ohio, covering stories such as the shootings at Kent State in 1970 and the Hough race riots in Cleveland; and

Whereas, in 1972, Dick arrived in Madison, Wisconsin, and began working for the Gongwer News Service; and

Whereas, also in 1972, Dick Wheeler created the famous government reporting service for Capitol insiders, government officials, and lobbyists that bore his name, "The Wheeler Report"; and

Whereas, The Wheeler Report originally began as a newsletter detailing the activities of the legislature and state government, which was mailed to subscribers daily; and

Whereas, The Wheeler Report progressed from a mailed newsletter, to a faxed newsletter, and finally led to the creation of a Web site in 1998; and

Whereas, today, the wheelereport.com is a popular Web site that links stories and allows viewers to track the daily actions of the Wisconsin legislature; and

Whereas, The Wheeler Report was truly a family business run by Dick, his daughter Gwyn, his son-in-law Trevor, and his longtime companion Diane; and

Whereas, Dick will not be forgotten for the role he played in securing a State Capitol room, centrally located between the senate and assembly chambers, designated for use by press covering the workings of the state's elected officials in the 1998 budget; and

Whereas, Dick was an invaluable resource to his fellow Capitol press reporters and served as the president of the Wisconsin Capitol Correspondents Association before stepping down in 2010; and

Whereas, Dick's impressive knowledge of state government and the inner workings of the legislature will be missed by all; and

Whereas, Dick, seen frequently arriving at 5:30 a.m., was known for his dedication in covering legislative activity, particularly that of the Joint Finance Committee, well into the night; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Capitol Correspondents Association voted unanimously to request that the press room be named in Dick's honor; and

Whereas, the familiar smell of pipe tobacco wafting through the portico of the Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard entrance to the Capitol will fade, but never be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature commends the life and dedicated service of Dick Wheeler, expresses its sorrow at his death, and extends its condolences to his family, friends, and all those who were touched by his work; and, be it further

Resolved, That in recognition of his many years of distinguished service to the legislature and the people of Wisconsin, Room 235 SW in the Capitol shall be known as the Dick Wheeler Capitol Press Room; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to Mr. Wheeler's daughter and family.

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 50 (LRB -3478)

Relating to: the life and public service of Dick Wheeler.

11-23.	S.	Introduced by Senators Darling, Taylor, Lazich, Cowles, Lassa, Wanggaard, Jauch, Galloway, S. Coggs, T. Cullen, Kedzie, S. Fitzgerald, Carpenter, Grothman, Wirch, Erpenbach, Olsen, C. Larson, Harsdorf, Ellis, Holperin, Vinehout, Shilling, Lasee, Schultz, Risser, King, Vukmir and Miller; cosponsored by Representatives Kaufert, Suder, Pocan, Bernier, Van Roy, Ziegelbauer, Milroy, Loudenbeck, Grigsby, Knodl, Vruwink, Hebl, Tranel, Sinicki, LeMahieu, Toles, Strachota, Nass, Kerkman, Hulsey, Kuglitsch, Farrow, Pridemore, Jacque, Roys, Williams, Ballweg, Ripp, Thiesfeldt, Petryk, Spanbauer, Bernard Schaber, Bewley, Jorgensen, Meyer, Molepske Jr, Turner, Kestell, Steineke, Mason, Stroebel, D. Cullen, Staskunas, E. Coggs, Kleefisch, C. Taylor, Kessler, Krug, Pasch, Berceau, August and Clark.	
11-23.	S.	Read and referred to committee on Senate Organization	606
11-23.	S.	Available for scheduling.	. 000
2012		·	
01-11.	S.	Representative Barca added as a cosponsor	647
01-12.	S.	Placed on calendar 1-17-2012 pursuant to Senate Rule 18(1)	650
01-17.	S.	Senator Hansen added as a coauthor	652
01-17.	S.	Read.	
01-17.	S.	Adopted	654
01-17.	S.	Entire membership of the Senate added as coauthors	654
01-17.	S.	Ordered immediately messaged	654
01-17.	Α.	Received from Senate	740
01-19.	Α.	Read first time and referred to committee on Rules	744
01-24.	A.	Placed on calendar 1-26-2012 by committee on Rules.	
01-26.	A.	Concurred in.	
01-26.	A.	Entire membership of the Assembly added as cosponsors.	
01-26.	A.	Ordered immediately messaged.	
01-26.	S.	Received from Assembly concurred in.	



2011 **Joint Resolution Passed by Both Houses** 11en S JR 50 **ENROLL JOINT RES** ADOPTED DOCUMENTS: 11 - 3478/2 SubAmdt Amendments to above (if none, write "NONE"): Corrections - show date (if none, write "NONE"): Drafter **ELECTRONIC PROCEDURE:** Follow automatic or manual enrolling procedures in TEXT2000 Reference Guide, Document Specific Procedures, Ch. 20, Engrossing and Enrolling Make 24 copies of ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION and distribute copies. **DISTRIBUTION:** LRB: HOUSE OF ORGIN: Drafting file 1 copy Secretary of State's envelope containing Legislative editors 1 copy each 4 copies plus newspaper notice LPS file 1 copy Index librarian 1 copy Original and all remaining copies plus bill

jacket

Revising attorney 1 copy



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State of Misconsin 2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



2011 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 50

November 23, 2011 – Introduced by Senators Darling, Taylor, Lazich, Cowles, Lassa, Wanggaard, Jauch, Galloway, S. Coggs, T. Cullen, Kedzie, S. Fitzgerald, Carpenter, Grothman, Wirch, Erpenbach, Olsen, C. Larson, Harsdorf, Ellis, Holperin, Vinehout, Shilling, Lasee, Schultz, Risser, King, Vukmir and Miller, cosponsored by Representatives Kaufert, Suder, Pocan, Bernier, Van Roy, Ziegelbauer, Milroy, Loudenbeck, Grigsby, Knodl, Vruwink, Hebl, Tranel, Sinicki, Lemahieu, Toles, Strachota, Nass, Kerkman, Hulsey, Kuglitsch, Farrow, Pridemore, Jacque, Roys, Williams, Ballweg, Ripp, Thiesfeldt, Petryk, Spanbauer, Bernard Schaber, Bewley, Jorgensen, Meyer, Molepske Jr, Turner, Kestell, Steineke, Mason, Stroebel, D. Cullen, Staskunas, E. Coggs, Kleefisch, C. Taylor, Kessler, Krug, Pasch, Berceau, August and Clark. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

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1	Whereas, The Wheeler Report originally began as a newsletter detailing the
2	activities of the legislature and state government, which was mailed to subscribers
3	daily; and
4	Whereas, The Wheeler Report progressed from a mailed newsletter, to a faxed
5	newsletter, and finally led to the creation of a Web site in 1998; and
6	Whereas, today, the wheelereport.com is a popular Web site that links stories
7	and allows viewers to track the daily actions of the Wisconsin legislature; and
8	Whereas, The Wheeler Report was truly a family business run by Dick, his
9	daughter Gwyn, his son-in-law Trevor, and his longtime companion Diane; and
10	Whereas, Dick will not be forgotten for the role he played in securing a State
11	Capitol room, centrally located between the senate and assembly chambers,
12	designated for use by press covering the workings of the state's elected officials in the
13	1998 budget; and
14	Whereas, Dick was an invaluable resource to his fellow Capitol press reporters
15	and served as the president of the Wisconsin Capitol Correspondents Association
16	before stepping down in 2010; and
17	Whereas, Dick's impressive knowledge of state government and the inner
18	workings of the legislature will be missed by all; and
19	Whereas, Dick, seen frequently arriving at 5:30 a.m., was known for his
20	dedication in covering legislative activity, particularly that of the Joint Finance
21	Committee, well into the night; and
22	Whereas, the Wisconsin Capitol Correspondents Association voted
23	unanimously to request that the press room be named in Dick's honor; and

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2	Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard entrance to the Capitol will fade, but never be
3	forgotten; now, therefore, be it
4	Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin
5	legislature commends the life and dedicated service of Dick Wheeler, expresses its
6	sorrow at his death, and extends its condolences to his family, friends, and all those
7	who were touched by his work; and, be it further
8	Resolved, That in recognition of his many years of distinguished service to the
9	legislature and the people of Wisconsin, Room 235 SW in the Capitol shall be known
10	as the Dick Wheeler Capitol Press Room; and, be it further
11	Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
12	resolution to Mr. Wheeler's daughter and family.
13	(END)