



State of Wisconsin  
2015 – 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4852/en  
CMH:jf

## 2015 SENATE RESOLUTION 12

1     **Relating to:** honoring and commending the remarkable and distinguished service  
2           of Michael G. Ellis.

3           Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis was born on February 21, 1941, in  
4     Neenah, Wisconsin; and

5           Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis worked as a lifeguard at Neenah  
6     community pool and had chlorine splashed in his eyes causing light sensitivity; and

7           Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis graduated from Neenah High  
8     School and earned his B.A. in secondary education from the University of  
9     Wisconsin–Oshkosh in 1965; and

10          Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis taught at St. Mary Central High  
11     School; and

12          Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis was elected to the Wisconsin state  
13     assembly in 1970 and served 10 distinguished years; and

14          Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis challenged an incumbent state  
15     senator and was elected to the state senate in 1982 and served for 32 years including

1 tenures as assistant majority leader, senate majority leader, senate minority leader,  
2 and senate president. Throughout his years of service, Senator Ellis served on  
3 numerous committees including the Joint Committee on Finance; State and Federal  
4 Relations; Ethics Reform and Government Operations; Universities, Housing, and  
5 Government Operations; Education, Ethics and Elections; and Energy and  
6 Environmental Resources; and

7       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis' service on the Joint Committee on  
8 Finance and as senate president was due to his mastery of the state budget and  
9 legislative rules and procedure; and

10       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis is tied for the longest-serving  
11 party leader in Wisconsin's history and is the second longest-serving state elected  
12 official in Wisconsin's history; and

13       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis authored and passed hundreds of  
14 bills which became law, guided hundreds more through the legislative process while  
15 serving the body in a leadership capacity, and forever impacted the law of the state  
16 of Wisconsin through his work and leadership; and

17       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis' passion for order as senate  
18 president lead to him breaking the gavel twice while in the chair; and

19       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis met Presidents Ronald Reagan,  
20 George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush; and

21       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis retired from the legislature in 2015  
22 and continues to live and farm in Neenah, Wisconsin; and

23       Whereas, Senate President Michael G. Ellis has been and will always remain  
24 deeply ingrained in the rich history of Wisconsin. His legacy is forever woven into  
25 the record of the Wisconsin legislature; now, therefore, be it

1           ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the senate recognizes Michael G. Ellis'  
2 distinguished career and contributions to the legislature and the state of Wisconsin.  
3 The Wisconsin state senate congratulates him on his many accomplishments and  
4 thanks him for his dedication and service to our state and to the senate.

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(END)