



State of Wisconsin
2015 – 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4852/2
CMH:kjf

2015 SENATE RESOLUTION 12

March 14, 2016 – Introduced by Senators LASEE, ROTH, RISSER, WANGGAARD, NASS, GUDEX, TIFFANY, VINEHOUT, MOULTON and CARPENTER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

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)