September 14, 2015 – Introduced by Representatives VORPAGEL, THIESFELDT, KATSMA, A. OTT, BALLWEG, BARCA, E. BROOKS, GOYKE, HINTZ, HUTTON, JAGLER, JARCHOW, KERKMAN, KNODL, KRUG, MURPHY, MURSAU, MURTHA, OHNSTAD, RIPP, SINICKI, SPIROS and SUBECK, cosponsored by Senators GUDEX, LE MAHIEU, DARLING, ERPENBACH, LASEE, MARKLEIN, MILLER, NASS, OLSEN, STROEBEL, VINEHOUT and VUKMIR. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: congratulating Whistling Straits, the Kohler Company, and Herbert Kohler Jr. on the 97th Annual PGA Championship.

Whereas, in 1873, John Michael Kohler emigrated from Austria looking for the opportunity that America offered and started the Kohler Company; and

Whereas, since its humble beginnings in 1873, the company has grown into a multifaceted global family of brands best known for plumbing products, but also manufactures furniture, cabinetry, tile, engines, and generators; and

Whereas, over the next century and a half, his family company has grown to be a large and profitable business, providing tens of thousands of jobs, and has literally built a community named Kohler, Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Kohler also owns various hospitality establishments in the United States and Scotland, including the American Club, the only AAA 5-Diamond resort hotel in the entire Midwest; the Black Wolf Run golf course in Kohler; and Whistling Straits golf course in the Town of Mosel; and
Whereas, August 10–16th, 2015, Whistling Straits hosted the 97th Annual PGA Championship, which brought some of the world’s finest golfers to Wisconsin to compete for the coveted PGA Championship, as well as thousands of volunteers and spectators who flocked to the tournament and made Wisconsin proud; and

Whereas, this event injected over $100 million into Wisconsin’s economy thanks to the hard work, planning, and foresight of Herbert Kohler Jr.; and

Whereas, the course now sets the stage for the 2020 Ryder Cup; and

Whereas, we appreciate all that the Kohler Company and Herbert Kohler Jr. do for the Kohler area and tourism in our entire state by putting Wisconsin on the map for golf enthusiasts around the world; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature congratulates Whistling Straits, the Kohler Company, and Herbert Kohler Jr. on another successful tournament for our state; and

Be it further resolved, That without the vision and foresight of John Michael Kohler in 1873 and the hard work and proper planning of the Kohler Hospitality and Real Estate Group, none of this would have been possible, and that we wish them continued success in the years to come; and

Be it further resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall present a copy of this resolution to the Kohler Company, The Kohler Hospitality and Real Estate Group, Whistling Straits Golf Course, and Herbert Kohler Jr.

(END)