January 13, 2016 – Introduced by Representative MURPHY, cosponsored by Senator HARSDORF. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: recognizing the nationally touring exhibition of Shakespeare’s First Folio.

Whereas, William Shakespeare is one of the most celebrated playwrights in history; and

Whereas, the Folger Shakespeare Library has announced a 2016 national touring exhibition of the original First Folio of Shakespeare, bringing it to all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico; and

Whereas, without the actions of John Heminges and Henry Condell to publish Shakespeare’s plays in the First Folio in 1623, the world may never have heard of Macbeth, The Tempest, Julius Caesar, The Comedy of Errors, and many other plays not published during Shakespeare’s lifetime; and

Whereas, Shakespeare’s impact on audiences, readers, the arts, and the English language can be felt across the centuries; and
Whereas, Shakespeare is the creator of many phrases still in use today, such as “wild-goose chase,” “brave new world,” “dead as a doornail,” “faint-hearted,” “love is blind,” “vanish into thin air,” and “hot-blooded”; and

Whereas, the University of Wisconsin–Madison, in partnership with the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, the American Players Theatre, the Wisconsin Book Festival, and many other partners across Wisconsin, will help bring this experience to the people of our state; and

Whereas, the First Folio will be displayed for public view at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in the Chazen Museum of Art from November 3 to December 11, 2016; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature does hereby honor the contributions of Shakespeare to world languages, literature, and the arts.