2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 56

June 5, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives STAFSHOLT, WACHS, BARCA, DOYLE, PETRYK, ANDERSON, BERCEAU, MURPHY, BROSTOFF, STEFFEN, HESSELBEIN, KRUG, MILROY, MASON, GENRICH, VRUWINK, E. BROOKS, SUBECK, CROWLEY, HORLACHER, ZAMARRIPA, SINICKI and SUMMERFIELD, cosponsored by Senators HARSDORF, VINEHOUT, RISSER, CARPENTER, ERPENBACH, L. TAYLOR, HANSEN, MARKLEIN, COWLES, OLSEN, RINGHAND, NASS and MILLER. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: the life and public service of Alvin J. Baldus.

Whereas, Alvin “Al” James Baldus was born on April 27, 1926, in Garner, Iowa, and died on February 2, 2017, in Menomonie, Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus graduated from Elkton High School in Minnesota, and earned an A.A. from Austin Junior College in Austin, Minnesota, in 1946; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus served in the U.S. Merchant Marine from 1944 to 1946, and was a Korean War veteran, serving in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953, and for distinguished service was awarded the Bronze Service Star; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly, serving from 1967 to 1973, and elected again to the Wisconsin State Assembly, serving from 1989 to 1997; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus served as assistant majority leader in the Assembly and as chair of the Building Commission’s Subcommittee on Higher Education; and
Whereas, Mr. Baldus chaired the Assembly Committee on Securities and Corporate Policy and the Committee on Insurance, Securities and Corporate Policy and cochaired the Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus was named to the Wisconsin’s Environmental Decade’s Clean 16 for his leadership and vision on environmental issues in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1975 and served in the 94th, 95th, and 96th Congresses; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus served as chair of the House Committee on Small Business’ Subcommittee on Energy, Environment, Safety and Research; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus served as chair of the House Committee on Agriculture’s Subcommittee on Dairy and Poultry, passing legislation through Congress beneficial to farmers and their cooperatives; and

Whereas, Mr. Baldus mentored many staff members who went on to ably serve cooperatives and the state legislature; and

Whereas, upon returning to Wisconsin, Mr. Baldus served as Director of Government Affairs for Cenex; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin Legislature commend the devoted public service that Alvin “Al” James Baldus contributed to this state and his community, express their sorrow at his death, and extend their condolences to his wife, Lolly, and family; and, be it further

Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to Mr. Baldus’s wife, Lolly, and children, Deborah, Bruce, Rebecca, John, and Daniel.