2017 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 113

March 7, 2018 – Introduced by Senator SHILLING, cosponsored by Representatives NERISON, TRANEL, SINICKI, VORPAGEL, THIESFELDT, BERCEAU, ZEPNICK, SARGENT and SPREITZER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: honoring the 200th anniversary of Crawford County.

Whereas, Crawford County was organized in 1818 as part of the Michigan Territory, and is one of two counties established then that still exist today; and

Whereas, Crawford County is bordered by the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers, both of which feature the scenic bluffs that the county is known for; and

Whereas, the county seat is the city of Prairie du Chien, which sits along the Mississippi River and was settled in the 1780s; and

Whereas, one of the state’s most famous historical homes is Villa Louis in Prairie du Chien, an Italian Villa style house built by the Dousman family in the 1870s, restored in the 1930s, and now a Wisconsin Historic Site; and

Whereas, Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien is the site of the only battle fought in Wisconsin during the War of 1812, and later was used to enforce fur trade regulations and keep the peace between the American Indians and the miners and settlers inhabiting the area; and
Whereas, the fort was named for William H. Crawford, who served as secretary of war under President James Madison when the fort was rebuilt in 1816 after it was abandoned and burned by the British; and

Whereas, the county would also be named for Crawford, who by 1818, was serving as the United States secretary of the treasury under President James Monroe; and

Whereas, the Mississippi River was connected to Lake Michigan at Prairie du Chien via the railroad in 1857, and the area later became a hub for the expanding regional rail system; and

Whereas, as part of the Great River Road, a national scenic byway, State Highway 35 runs along Crawford County through Prairie du Chien, Lynxville, and Ferryville, offering a wealth of historic stops and beautiful river views; and

Whereas, the Kickapoo River flows southwest through Crawford County to empty out into the Wisconsin River just below Wauzeka, and is famous for its winding, crooked path that attracts paddlers from all areas; and

Whereas, Soldiers Grove, which sits along the Kickapoo River, bills itself as “America’s First Solar Village”; and

Whereas, as part of the Driftless Area, Crawford County’s topography was untouched by the ice age glaciers and is distinct within the state; now, therefore be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin Legislature recognizes the 200th anniversary of Crawford County, and also recognizes the county’s importance in Wisconsin’s history.

(END)