2017 SENATE RESOLUTION 7

March 20, 2018 - Introduced by Senator Risser. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: the life and public service of Bronson C. La Follette.

Whereas, former state Attorney General Bronson C. La Follette was born on February 2, 1936, and died on March 15, 2018; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette was born in Washington, DC, the son of Senator Robert M. La Follette Jr. and Rachel Wilson Young, graduated from the Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland, earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1958, and earned his JD in 1960; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette began his public service as the assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin in 1962; and

Whereas, in 1964, La Follette, a Democrat, was elected to his first two-year term as the state's attorney general, and was reelected in 1966; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette left the attorney general's office to run for governor in 1968, losing to incumbent Governor Warren P. Knowles; and
Whereas, La Follette returned to public service when he was elected again as attorney general in 1974 for a four-year term, and subsequently was reelected in 1978 and 1982; and

Whereas, in the 1982 election, Bronson La Follette was the first candidate for state constitutional office to receive over one million votes; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette received the Wisconsin District Attorneys Association’s Distinguished Service Award in 1979; and

Whereas, La Follette lost his bid for reelection in 1986 and retired from public service when his final term ended; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette was a long-time consumer advocate, serving as the chairman of the President’s Consumer Advisory Council from 1966 to 1969; was a member of the board of directors of the Consumers Union from 1968 to 1977; and was president of the Wisconsin Consumer’s League in 1969; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette worked to raise funds for many worthy causes within Dane County and the state of Wisconsin, related to such issues as mental health and child abuse; and

Whereas, Bronson La Follette, the grandson of legendary Wisconsin Governor and U.S. Senator Robert M. La Follette, carried on the progressive traditions of his family name; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, That the Wisconsin Senate salutes Bronson C. La Follette’s public service and mourns his passing; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to his family.