



## 2019 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 25

1     **Relating to:** recognizing September 1 to 7, 2019, as Resiliency Week.

2             Whereas, hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by  
3     lessening the impact of disasters. It is most effective when implemented under a  
4     comprehensive, long-term mitigation plan; and

5             Whereas, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, administered by the  
6     Federal Emergency Management Agency, is designed to assist states and local  
7     communities in implementing a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation  
8     program; and

9             Whereas, federal legislation recently enacted, the Disaster Recovery Reform  
10     Act, makes available new dollars for states and communities to undertake  
11     pre-disaster mitigation measures and creates new incentives for states to build  
12     resiliently; and

13             Whereas, since 1908, natural disasters have cost the country more than one  
14     trillion dollars; and

1           Whereas, disasters affect the local and state economies in lost payrolls, lost  
2 sales and income tax, and increased disaster recovery times; and

3           Whereas, according to a FEMA commissioned study conducted by the National  
4 Institute of Building Sciences, every \$1 spent on hazard mitigation provides the  
5 nation with \$6 in future benefits; and

6           Whereas, 25 percent of small businesses that are impacted by a natural disaster  
7 never reopen their doors; and

8           Whereas, September is National Preparedness Month and Wisconsin  
9 Preparedness Month in recognition of the need for all Americans to prepare and plan  
10 for recovery after a disaster; and

11           Whereas, mitigation planning is a key process used to break the cycle of  
12 disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage; and

13           Whereas, effective pre-disaster mitigation reduces the demand for relief  
14 services on volunteer organizations such as disaster rescue and recovery teams,  
15 along with food banks and homeless shelters who serve our communities by changing  
16 their operations to provide additional services to those affected by disaster; and

17           Whereas, this legislative body honors the brave men and women who, as first  
18 responders, selflessly provide aid in a disaster to safeguard Wisconsin citizens; and

19           Whereas, this legislative body encourages Wisconsin communities to build  
20 resiliently and develop long-range mitigation strategies for protecting people and  
21 property from future hazard events; now, therefore, be it

22           ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the Wisconsin  
23 Legislature declares the week of September 1 to 7, 2019, as Resiliency Week to raise

1 public awareness about the continuing need to plan for future disasters by  
2 instituting a pre-disaster mitigation strategy.

3 (END)