February 3, 2020 - Introduced by Representatives KURTZ, PLUMER, TITTL, FELZKOWSKI, WICHERGS, MILROY, PETRYK, THIESFELDT, MURPHY, ALLEN, HESSELBEIN, KERKMAN, HORBACHER, QUINN, JAMES, SUBECK, KRUG, EDMING, KULP and SPIROS, cosponsored by Senators WANGGAARD, CARPENTER, JACQUE and NASS. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: recognizing the 29th anniversary of the start of Operation Desert Storm on January 17, 1991, and honoring the veterans of this conflict.

Whereas, Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein invaded the nation of Kuwait on August 2, 1990; and

Whereas, the United States and its NATO allies quickly mobilized to defend Saudi Arabia in an effort code-named Operation Desert Shield; and

Whereas, after Hussein refused to withdraw, President George H. W. Bush announced on January 16, 1991, that the United States would fight “shoulder-to-shoulder” with its allies to liberate Kuwait; and

Whereas, Operation Desert Storm began on January 17, 1991, with an air campaign that swiftly destroyed Iraqi artillery, tanks, and armored vehicles, and led to mass Iraqi desertions; and

Whereas, this relentless and technologically advanced aerial assault paved the way for a fast-moving ground offensive that began on February 24, 1991, and succeeded within 100 hours; and
Whereas, nearly 700,000 American troops deployed to the Persian Gulf, fighting against not only Iraqi forces, but also environmental challenges like high heat, sand, and wind; and

Whereas, ten Wisconsinites lost their lives in the course of this conflict, which ended after President Bush declared a cease-fire on February 28, 1991; and

Whereas, Congress enacted legislation in 2014 authorizing the establishment of a monument in Washington, D.C., called the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial; and

Whereas, Wisconsin veterans have raised funds and awareness for this monument; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin Legislature honors the Wisconsin men and women who served in Operation Desert Storm and recognizes their sacrifices on the 29th anniversary of January 17, 1991.

(END)