February 24, 2020 - Introduced by Representatives ZAMARRIPA, ANDERSON, CABRERA, CROWLEY, EMERSON, FIELDS, GRUSZYNSKI, HAYWOOD, HEBL, HINTZ, KOLSTE, MILROY, NEUBAUER, RIEMER, SARGENT, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SKOWRONSKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, C. TAYLOR, BROSTOFF, SUBECK and CONSIDINE, cosponsored by Senators CARPENTER, JOHNSON, BEWLEY, HANSEN, LARSON, RINGHAND, L. TAYLOR and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: proclaiming March 31, 2020, as Cesar Chavez Day in the state of Wisconsin.

Whereas, Cesar Chavez was born March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona; and

Whereas, Cesar Chavez is revered as a prominent Hispanic American civil rights and labor rights activist for his work organizing migrant farm workers in California; and

Whereas, Chavez became a migrant farm worker in California while in middle school to support his family; and

Whereas, he joined the United States Navy in 1946 and served for two years; and

Whereas, Chavez became an organizer and eventually national director of the Community Service Organization, where he focused on voter registration for Mexican Americans; and

Whereas, Cesar Chavez founded and ran the National Farm Workers Association in 1962, which became the United Farm Workers; and
Whereas, the United Farm Workers organized thousands of migrant farm workers and came to represent more than 50,000 agricultural workers; and

Whereas, Chavez through nonviolent protests, boycotts, marches, and hunger strikes, successfully secured union contracts and improved working conditions and wages for thousands of migrant farm workers; and

Whereas, Chavez is famous for his slogan, “Si, se puede,” which is Spanish for “Yes, we can”; and

Whereas, Cesar Chavez was honored following his death on April 23, 1993, by more than 50,000 mourners including fellow labor activists; and

Whereas, Cesar Chavez received the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously in 1994; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin Legislature proclaim March 31, 2020, as Cesar Chavez Day in the state of Wisconsin.

(END)