2019 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 70

July 3, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives BROSTOFF, SINICKI, ANDERSON, ZAMARRIPA, CROWLEY, SPREITZER, GOYKE, L. MYERS, NEUBAUER, VRUWINK, HESSELBEIN, BOWEN, SARGENT, OHNSTAD, SUBECK, CABRERA, SKOWRONSKI and C. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Senators LARSON, L. TAYLOR, WIRCH and BEWLEY. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: recognizing Margaret Rozga for her appointment as Wisconsin Poet Laureate.

Whereas, on January 14, 2019 the Wisconsin Poet Laureate Commission announced that Margaret “Peggy” Rozga will serve as Wisconsin’s poet laureate for 2019 and 2020; and

Whereas, Rozga is a well-known writer from Milwaukee, whose poetry collections include Though I Haven’t Been to Baghdad and Pestiferous Questions: A Life in Poems; and

Whereas, in 2009, Rozga received a bronze medal for her first book, 200 Nights and One Day, in the Independent Publishers Book Awards; and

Whereas, in 2010 and 2013, the Wisconsin Library Association honored her with the Outstanding Achievement in Poetry literary award; and

Whereas, she is an emeritus professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee at Waukesha, where she teaches a continuing education poetry workshop; and
Whereas, Rozga also serves on the program committee for the Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books and as a judge for poetry and writing contests throughout the country; and

Whereas, Rozga’s remarkable poems draw on her experiences and interests as an educator, avid reader, parent, and advocate for social and racial justice; and

Whereas, in her role as poet laureate, Rozga will serve as state ambassador of poetry by giving poetry readings throughout the state; and

Whereas, Rozga has announced that her three initiatives as poet laureate include: encouraging people to claim a favorite poem, encouraging book clubs to focus at least one meeting a year on poetry, and building a Wisconsin poetry presence on social media; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin Legislature offers its congratulations to Margaret Rozga for her appointment as Wisconsin Poet Laureate.

(END)