2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 22

March 25, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives B. MEYERS, SINICKI, HEBL, DRAKE, VRUWINK, S. RODRIGUEZ, MILROY, HESSELBEIN, SHELTON, SUBECK, SHANKLAND, THIESFELDT, HINTZ, NEUBAUER, SPREITZER, CABRERA and STUBBS, cosponsored by Senators BEWLEY, L. TAYLOR, COWLES, RINGHAND, FELZKOWSKI and ERPENBACH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: proclaiming the month of March as Snowplow Driver Awareness Month.

Whereas, snowplow drivers ensure the safe operation of more than 115,000 miles of state and local roads across the state of Wisconsin, and, given that Wisconsin’s average snow fall ranges from 40 to 160 inches of snow every winter, this is not an easy task; and

Whereas, there are between 35 and 40 winter weather events that hit Wisconsin every year, and snowplow drivers sacrifice time with their families and move snow in hazardous weather conditions, at night, and in the cold whenever and wherever there is need; and

Whereas, over 1,500 county highway department employees are licensed to operate a snowplow, with approximately 755 of the drivers permanently assigned to the state highway system to help with highway maintenance projects, such as pothole patching, emergency shoulder repair, sign maintenance, and vegetation management, in addition to keeping our roads and highways safe; and
Whereas, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) contracts with our 72 county highway departments, providing 755 trucks for snow removal, a vital public service that ensures the operation of our roads and the security of traveling Wisconsinites and visitors every year; and

Whereas, keeping snowplow drivers safe is the best way we can thank them for their tireless efforts, which includes staying at least 200 feet behind a working snowplow, making sure motorists can see the snowplow driver’s mirrors, and avoiding passing snowplow drivers while they are working to ensure the safety of themselves and motorists; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature, in recognition of the importance of snowplow drivers and their contribution to keeping Wisconsin drivers safe, does hereby proclaim the month of March as Snowplow Driver Awareness Month.