2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 5

January 29, 2021 – Introduced by Representatives PRONSHINSKE, PETRYK, BOWEN, EMERSON, HEBL, KERKMAN, KRUG, MILROY, SINICKI, SKOWRONSKI, SNYDER, SPIROS, SPREITZER, TAUCHE, TRANEL, TUSLER and VRUWINK, cosponsored by Senators SMITH, CARPENTER, COWLES, FELZKOWSKI, NASS, PFAFF, L. TAYLOR and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: honoring the life and public service of Representative Barbara Gronemus.

Whereas, Representative Barbara “Bobby” Gronemus, a dedicated public servant and loving wife, mother, and grandmother passed away on January 17, 2021; and

Whereas, Bobby was born to Irwin and Irene Barry on November 21, 1931, and grew up on a farm near Sparta, Wisconsin; and

Whereas, prior to joining the legislature, Bobby worked with her late husband, Lambert “Bert” Gronemus, on their farm and worked for 10 years as a nursing home activities director; and

Whereas, Bobby was elected to the Wisconsin Assembly in 1982 and went on to represent the people of the 91st Assembly District for 26 years; and

Whereas, Bobby was proud of her farm background, using the moniker “the Farmer’s Daughter” during her election campaigns; and
Whereas, during her time in the assembly, Bobby was a tireless advocate for her rural district, and particularly for farmers, once stating that she strived to be “the best hired hand” the district could send to Madison; and

    Whereas, in 1987, Bobby became the first woman to chair the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, a position that she held until 1995; and

    Whereas, Bobby was a member of several organizations throughout her life, including the Council of State Governments’ National Policy Steering Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Agriculture and International Trade Committee, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau, the Wisconsin Farmers Union, Whitehall Lions Club, Ducks Unlimited, and many others; and

    Whereas, Bobby loved fishing, flowers, dancing, and spending time with her family and pets; and

    Whereas, while serving in the legislature, Bobby’s license plate read “WORK 4 U,” which aptly describes her tireless efforts to work across the aisle to advance legislation that assisted those she was so proud to serve; now, therefore be it

    **Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That** the members of the Wisconsin State Legislature join in honoring the life and public service of Representative Barbara Gronemus and extend their condolences to her family and friends; and, be it further

    **Resolved, That** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution to her children, Michael, Jackie, and Susie.