2021 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 18

March 16, 2021 - Introduced by Senators CARPENTER, AGARD, BEWLEY, ERPENBACH, JOHNSON, LARSON, RINGHAND, ROYS and SMITH, cosponsored by Representatives NEUBAUER, CABRERA, SNOGRASS, SPREITZER, ANDERSON, BALDEH, BILLINGS, BOWEN, BROSTOFF, CONLEY, CONSIDINE, DRAKE, EMERSON, HEBL, HESSELBEIN, HONG, B. MEYERS, POPE, RIEMER, S. RODRIGUEZ, SHANKLAND, SHELTON, SINICKI, SUBECK, VINING and VRUWINK. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: proclaiming March 31, 2021, as Wisconsin’s Transgender Day of Visibility.

Whereas, International Transgender Day of Visibility, which occurs annually on March 31st, is a day set aside to acknowledge, celebrate, and elevate transgender and nonbinary people across the world and here in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, transgender and nonbinary individuals have achieved many great successes in fighting discrimination, and continue in their efforts towards equality and fairness by combating indignity with dignity; and

Whereas, the stories of Alina Boyden and Shannon Andrews show us that perseverance can lead to systemic change and better conditions for all; and

Whereas, Elle Halo works to help transgender people acquire access to health care, to improve others’ mental and physical well-being, to raise awareness of issues affecting gender-nonconforming people of color, and to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS; and
Whereas, transgender and nonbinary people serve our country in the armed forces, including Col. Sheri Swokowski, Ph.D., the highest-ranking out transgender veteran, who works to improve transgender civil rights and health care for other transgender military service members; and

Whereas, Zoe Roberts, Vered Meltzer, Jessica Katzenmeyer, and Wendy Bolm provide examples of bravery and confidence in pursuing their values through political engagement and encouraging others to do so as well; and

Whereas, Rachel Crowl brings authenticity to the stage and screen and demonstrates the importance of transgender and nonbinary people sharing their lived experiences; and

Whereas, Alex Corona advocates for others by creating resources, trainings, and outreach materials to improve the visibility and inclusion of the transgender and nonbinary community, as well as helping others access and navigate the name change process; and

Whereas, Diverse and Resilient, FORGE, SHEBA, GSAFE, The Black Rose Initiative, Fair Wisconsin, the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, and other organizations across our state have dedicated their efforts to supporting the transgender and nonbinary community, showing the strength of collective action and building a more inclusive Wisconsin; and

Whereas, everyone has a role to play in making our communities places where transgender and gender-nonconforming people are welcomed, supported, and have the opportunity to thrive; and

Whereas, our transgender and nonbinary neighbors in Wisconsin have shown great strength in the face of adversity and empower others to explore and embrace their full selves by living their truth; now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin Legislature does hereby recognize and proclaim March 31, 2021, to be Wisconsin’s Transgender Day of Visibility.

(END)