2021 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 53

July 7, 2021 – Introduced by Senators JOHNSON, L. TAYLOR, LARSON, AGARD, CARPENTER and ROYS, cosponsored by Representatives SHANKLAND, SHELTON, SUBECK, SPREITZER, BOWEN, S. RODRIGUEZ, NEUBAUER, HESSELBEIN, BALDEH, SPIROS, SINICKI, CONLEY, MILROY, CABRERA, DRAKE, EMERSON, OHNSTAD, MURPHY, BROSTOFF and STUBBS. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: proclaiming July 2021 as Drowning Prevention Month in the state of Wisconsin.

Whereas, the World Health Organization has declared July 25 World Drowning Prevention Day to highlight the tragic and profound impact of drowning on families and communities and offer life-saving solutions to prevent it; and

Whereas, drowning is a leading cause of injury for American children aged one to four; and

Whereas, eight Wisconsin children succumbed to drowning and 81 suffered drowning-related injuries in 2018; and

Whereas, we recognize and honor those who have lost their lives to drowning, such as Jensine Lowe and Jereba Lowe; and

Whereas, such accidents not only occur at swimming pools, lakes, rivers, and beaches, but also in shallow water, like wading pools and bathtubs; and

Whereas, increased awareness of water safety may reduce the risk of death and long-term cognitive disabilities caused by drowning; and
Whereas, children are less likely to drown if they are given opportunities to learn how to swim and if they are supervised by adults when near water of any kind; and

Whereas, adults may enhance water safety by ensuring that an on-duty lifeguard is present, checking the depth of water before jumping or diving, receiving training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and learning steps to take in an emergency; and

Whereas, the American Red Cross urges swimmers of all ages to know their limitations, never swim alone, always swim sober, avoid swimming after dark, and identify risks like currents, water hazards, water temperature, and shallow water; and

Whereas, pool owners can protect children by keeping rescue equipment nearby, covering or fencing in pools, and taking other measures to ensure pools are inaccessible to children when not in use; and

Whereas, boaters may reduce risks for themselves and their passengers by staying sober and storing life vests for everyone on board; and

Whereas, Wisconsin waters—whether pools, lakes, rivers, or beaches on the Great Lakes—provide fun and physically beneficial ways to enjoy the outdoors, if proper water safety measures are taken; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin Legislature recognizes July 2021 as Drowning Prevention Month.

(END)