

State of Wisconsin



2017 Assembly Joint Resolution 80

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: proclaiming October 15th, 2017, as White Cane Safety Day.

Whereas, the white cane, which every blind citizen in our state has the right to carry, is a demonstration of the ability to live and fulfill an independent and fully capable life, both privately and in the workforce; and

Whereas, the white cane allows every blind person to move freely and safely about in society, leading to increased contributions and participation; and

Whereas, on October 6, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaimed October 15 of each year as White Cane Safety Day, after commending the blind people of our society for their spirit of independence and determination to be self-reliant; and

Whereas, this proclamation marked the culmination of a long journey for the recognition of the independence and self-sufficiency of blind people in America; and

Whereas, the law requires motorists to exercise extreme caution when approaching a blind person carrying a white cane, something that every citizen should be aware of; and

Whereas, Wisconsin law calls upon both public and private employers to be aware of not only the full array of skills that blind people possess, but also their independence and productive capabilities that greatly assist the competitive workforce; and

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin encourages and looks forward to the continued growth of employment and acceptance of blind people in the competitive labor market; and

Whereas, to honor the many achievements of blind and visually impaired Wisconsinites, and to recognize the white cane's significance in advancing independence; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature proclaims October 15, 2017, as White Cane Safety Day.

Senator Roger Roth
President of the Senate

Representative Robin J. Vos
Speaker of the Assembly

Date

Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk