

1999 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 16

September 28, 1999 – Introduced by Representative Hebl. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1	Relating to: the life and public service of Wilbur Renk.
2	Whereas, Wilbur Renk fell ill at his family's 100-year-old farmhouse and died
3	on September 4, 1999, in Madison, Wisconsin; and
4	Whereas, Mr. Renk was a lifelong resident of Sun Prairie and a graduate of the
5	University of Wisconsin; and
6	Whereas, Mr. Renk spent his entire life serving the people of Wisconsin in
7	various ways, including serving as president of the University of Wisconsin Board
8	of Regents from 1958–59; and
9	Whereas, together with his father and brother, Mr. Renk started a hybrid seed
10	business that helped farmers across rural Wisconsin produce the finest quality crops
11	that are the symbol of America's Dairyland; and
12	Whereas, this seed company is famous to this day, as farmers across the world
13	proudly display its famous sign, a yellow "R" coming out of a red background with the

name Renk below it; and

14

1	Whereas, Mr. Renk's devotion to the people of Wisconsin led him to enter the
2	field of politics, running for governor in 1962 and the U.S. senate in 1964; and
3	Whereas, former President Dwight Eisenhower visited Green Bay during the
4	1964 U.S. senate campaign, calling Mr. Renk "a man of character" and of "stalwart
5	courage"; and
6	Whereas, Mr. Renk is survived by his wife, Helen, son, Steven and daughter,
7	Sue Tomlin; now, therefore, be it
8	Resolved by the assembly, That the members of the Wisconsin assembly
9	commend the devoted public service that Wilbur Renk contributed to this state and
10	nation, express their sorrow at his death, and extend their condolences to his family
11	and friends; and, be it further
12	Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this resolution
13	to Mr. Renk's wife and children.
14	(END)