

2001 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 37

1	Relating to: Gary Watchke's retirement following an exemplary career as a
2	legislative analyst in the service of the Wisconsin legislature.
3	Whereas, Gary Watchke served the Wisconsin legislature as a legislative
4	analyst in the Legislative Reference Bureau from August 1, 1969, to April 30, 2001;
5	and
6	Whereas, Gary Watchke was born on February 5, 1940, in New Ulm,
7	Minnesota, and received degrees from Mankato State University and the University
8	of Wisconsin–Milwaukee; and
9	Whereas, he has devoted his professional life to providing the legislature with
10	accurate and impartial information on a wide array of issues, and to providing the
11	people of Wisconsin with a greater understanding of their legislature; and
12	Whereas, his diligent and patient work with legislators and staff in collecting
13	biographical information and photographs of legislators for the Wisconsin Blue Book
14	made him one of the most knowledgeable authorities on the men and women who
15	have served in the legislature over the past 30 years, and he worked tirelessly at the

May 30, 2001 – Introduced by Senators RISSER, WIRCH, ROSENZWEIG, BURKE, PANZER, ERPENBACH, COWLES, HUELSMAN, ROESSLER, GROBSCHMIDT, HARSDORF, HANSEN and BAUMGART, cosponsored by Representatives KRUG, SUDER, POCAN, FREESE, HAHN, STARZYK, TRAVIS, RYBA, TOWNSEND, LA FAVE, BOYLE, WOOD, OWENS, MILLER, BOCK, LADWIG, M. LEHMAN, J. LEHMAN, HUEBSCH, BERCEAU, PLALE, PLOUFF, JESKEWITZ, POWERS, LIPPERT, LASSA, SYKORA, OTT, VRAKAS and PETROWSKI. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

daunting but vital task of compiling the lengthy elections tables for the *Wisconsin Blue Book*; and

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3 Whereas, he has written extensively on educational issues and has willingly 4 shared his knowledge and information contacts with legislators and other 5 researchers; and

- 6 Whereas, for many years he has written briefs clearly explaining all 7 constitutional amendments that have been proposed and approved for ratification 8 by the voters; and
- 9 Whereas, his patience, warmth, and kindness shone through to all of those he
 10 helped, from public officials to school children; and
- 11 Whereas, he embodied in his genuine care and affection for legislators, staff 12 members, and service agency employees, the idea that the legislature is a family; 13 now, therefore, be it
- 14 *Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That* the members of the
 15 Wisconsin legislature salute Gary Watchke for his 32 years of service to the
 16 Wisconsin legislature and the people of Wisconsin; and, be it further
- 17 *Resolved, That* the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
 18 resolution to Gary Watchke.
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(END)