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State of Misconsin 2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



2011 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 113

February 21, 2012 – Introduced by Representatives Kessler, Suder, Seidel and Vruwink, cosponsored by Senator Lassa. Referred to Committee on Rules.

2	Whereas, Frank L. Nikolay was born on September 1, 1922, in the town of Day
3	in Marathon County, and died on December 10, 2011, in Abbotsford; and
4	Whereas, with his passing, Wisconsin has lost a lion of progressivism, and one
5	of the last of those lights that led politically active liberals from the Progressive Party
6	into the Democratic fold; and
7	Whereas, Frank Nikolay began a lifetime of service to his country and his state
8	with a stint in the Wisconsin National Guard from 1940 to 1941 and wartime service
9	in the U.S. Navy from 1942 to 1946; and
10	Whereas, Frank Nikolay received his law degree from the University of
11	Wisconsin in 1948; and
12	Whereas, Frank Nikolay served as U.S. Attorney for the Western District of
13	Wisconsin from 1952 to 1954; and

Relating to: the life and public service of Frank L. Nikolay.

1	Whereas, Frank Nikolay joined the Wisconsin National Guard again in 1950,
2	beginning 30 years of service that saw him rise to the rank of colonel in the Judge
3	Advocate section; and
4	Whereas, Frank Nikolay was elected to the Wisconsin assembly from Clark
5	County in 1958, a leading member of the freshman class that ushered in the first
6	Democratic majority in a generation; and
7	Whereas, Frank Nikolay served in the 1959 to 1965 and the 1969 sessions,
8	serving as majority leader in 1965 and assistant minority leader in 1963 and 1969;
9	and
10	Whereas, many Wisconsin politicians including Dave Obey, Fred Kessler, and
11	Amy Sue Vruwink were inspired by Frank Nikolay's life and public service; and
12	Whereas, Frank Nikolay's public service did not end when he left the
13	legislature, but also included decades of service as a member of the Clark County
14	board and municipal attorney for various cities, towns, and villages in the area; and
15	Whereas, Frank Nikolay's fierce devotion to the Democratic Party and the less
16	fortunate among us never wavered, even in his later years; now, therefore, be it
17	Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature
18	salutes Frank Nikolay's long life of public service to Wisconsin and mourns his
19	passing; and, be it further
20	Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this resolution
21	to Frank Nikolay's wife of 54 years, Mary, his brother, Jim Nikolay, and his sister,
22	Anne Talaska.
23	(END)