



2025 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 34

April 25, 2025 - Introduced by Senators JAMES, PFAFF, DASSLER-ALFHEIM, L. JOHNSON, KEYESKI, RATCLIFF, ROYS, SPREITZER, TESTIN and WALL, cosponsored by Representatives VANDERMEER, BILLINGS, DITTRICH, CLANCY, DESMIDT, DOYLE, DUCHOW, GUNDRUM, J. JACOBSON, JOERS, JOHNSON, KITCHENS, KRUG, KURTZ, MADISON, MIRESE, MURSAU, ORTIZ-VELEZ, PALMERI, PHELPS, ROE, SINICKI, SPAUDE, STUBBS and SUBECK. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** honoring the 50th anniversary of the child support program.

2 Whereas, President Gerald R. Ford Jr. signed the Social Services
3 Amendments of 1974 (H.R. 17045), into law on January 4, 1975, creating the
4 federal child support program as we know it today; and

5 Whereas, President Ford recognized the importance of child support at the
6 time, calling it “a major piece of domestic legislation and a significant step forward
7 in Federal-State relations”; and

8 Whereas, Wisconsin’s child support program is administered by the
9 Department of Children and Families and operated by 71 county child support
10 agencies and nine tribal child support agencies; and

11 Whereas, child support is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs in
12 the nation, and analysis of Wisconsin data shows that child support closed the
13 poverty gap by an average of 44 percent; and

Whereas, in fiscal year 2023, the Wisconsin child support program served 341,000 children and collected \$841 million in economic support; and

Whereas, by collaborating with their communities, county, state, and tribal child support agencies and programs serve children and families by providing needs-specific resources to assist families while encouraging family self-sufficiency; and

Whereas, over the past half century, the child support program has evolved to include initiatives that connect parents to important services—including employment training and treatment courts—so the parents can develop strong and healthy relationships with their children; and

Whereas, Wisconsin has hundreds of hard-working child support professionals who help fathers establish legal rights to their children, establish and enforce support orders, and secure private health insurance for children; and

Whereas, Wisconsin's child support program is a national leader, ranking third in the nation for the collection and distribution of current support; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin Legislature honor January 4, 2025, as the 50th Anniversary of the child support program and commend the county, state, and tribal agency staff members who work to promote financial security for Wisconsin children and families.

(END)