



2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 137

April 22, 2010 – Introduced by Representatives SHERMAN, MILROY and KESSLER, cosponsored by Senators TAYLOR, KEDZIE, COWLES, HARSDORF and HOLPERIN. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Paul E. Hassett.

2 Whereas, Paul Hassett, a dedicated lifelong public servant and advocate for
3 education and the environment, passed away at the age of 92 on Friday, April 16,
4 2010; and

5 Whereas, Paul Hassett was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, on September
6 4, 1917, moved with his parents George and Rosealind Hassett, and six siblings to
7 Milwaukee in 1925, was a “four letter” athlete, winning the state cross-country
8 championship in 1934 and 1935 at West Division High School in Milwaukee, and
9 graduated from La Crosse State University in 1940; and

10 Whereas, Paul Hassett enlisted in the Air Force at the beginning of World War
11 II, first teaching navigation for two years in Texas before being sent to Burma, where
12 he made more than 50 flights in C-47s, writing about and photographing the
13 surrender of Japanese troops to Chinese and American officers at Nanking, China,
14 as the war ended; and

1 Whereas, Paul Hassett returned to Wisconsin and his position as a high school
2 English teacher, before taking on the role of Editor of The Dunn County News, where
3 he met local Republican leaders, including former State Senator Robert Knowles and
4 his brother, Warren, who was later to become governor; and

5 Whereas, Paul Hassett and his wife Charlotte Arians, another teacher, were
6 married for 59 years before her death in 2001, and together raised two sons, Scott
7 Hassett and Steve Hassett, and a daughter, Sharon Lukas, and were blessed with
8 five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

9 Whereas, Paul Hassett was called to active duty in the Air Force a second time
10 in 1952, serving as a navigator flying B-29s from Okinawa over North Korea for 35
11 bombing missions, and continued writing a newspaper column in The Dunn County
12 News from Korea, and returned once again to Wisconsin; and

13 Whereas, in addition to enriching his community by teaching and editing The
14 Dunn County News, Paul Hassett served as chairman of Dunn County's Republican
15 Party, executive secretary to former Gov. Warren Knowles, president of the
16 Wisconsin Vocational School System, president of the Wisconsin Manufacturers and
17 Commerce Association from 1970 through 1986, as well as on the UW Board of
18 Regents, the Federal Housing Board, the Dunn County Selective Service Board, and
19 the local National Guard unit; and

20 Whereas, Paul Hassett, a lifelong Republican, had an extraordinary ability to
21 work with elected officials from both political parties, loved telling stories about how
22 honored he was to be the person who gave candidate John F. Kennedy a tour of the
23 important places and people in Dunn County in 1960 and what a great experience
24 he had when, as a member of the Knowles administration, he had an opportunity to
25 spend time with President Richard Nixon in the White House; and

