$\begin{array}{c} LRB\text{--}5744/1 \\ CMH\text{:}skw \end{array}$ 

## 2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 108

January 13, 2022 - Introduced by Representatives Edming and B. Meyers, cosponsored by Senators Petrowski and Bewley. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1	Relating to: proclaiming February 21 to 27, 2022, as American Birkebeiner Week
2	in Wisconsin.
3	Whereas, the American Birkebeiner, held each year in Hayward, Wisconsin, is
4	North America's largest cross-country ski race and contributes to the estimated \$30
5	million in silent sports revenue generated in Sawyer and Bayfield Counties each
6	year; and
7	Whereas, over 13,500 cross-country skiers and an estimated 35,000 spectators
8	gather in Hayward each February to celebrate and participate in the American
9	Birkebeiner Ski Foundation's annual Birkie Week of Nordic skiing festivities, which
10	includes events for all ages and abilities; and
11	Whereas, over 250,000 skiers have participated in American Birkebeiner Ski
12	Foundation races since 1973; and
13	Whereas, the American Birkebeiner is a uniquely American tradition and the
14	sole cross-country ski race representing the North American continent within the
15	Worldloppet Ski Federation; and

1	Whereas, the over 100 kilometer American Birkebeiner recreational trail was
2	ranked the number one cross-country ski destination in the United States in 2016.
3	This recreational corridor is utilized by an estimated 100,000 visitors annually and
4	draws tourists to the northwestern Wisconsin region; and
5	Whereas, Hayward and the surrounding rural communities host participants
6	from 47 states and 17 countries (in 2022) to join in Birkie Week festivities; and
7	Whereas, 2,500 volunteers from all points north, south, east, and west
8	volunteer at Birkie Week events in support of the 13,500 competitors; and
9	Whereas, the American Birkebeiner is celebrating its 48th year in 2022; and
10	Whereas, the mission of the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation, a $501(c)(3)$
11	nonprofit organization, is to conduct the finest international cross-country ski
12	competitions, to serve as good stewards of the American Birkebeiner trail system,
13	and to support a healthy and active lifestyle among people of all ages and abilities;
14	now, therefore, be it
15	Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature, in
16	recognition of the importance of the American Birkebeiner and its contribution to the
17	state of Wisconsin and its citizens, does hereby proclaim February 21 to 27, 2022, to
18	be American Birkebeiner Week in Wisconsin; and, be it further
19	<b>Resolved, That</b> the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution
20	to the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation.
21	(END)