

State of Misconsin 2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

2025 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 9

- February 17, 2025 Introduced by Representatives KNODL, MOORE OMOKUNDE, ALLEN, ARMSTRONG, ARNEY, BARE, BEHNKE, BROWN, CLANCY, CRUZ, DESANTO, DESMIDT, DITTRICH, DONOVAN, DOYLE, EMERSON, FITZGERALD, GOODWIN, GREEN, GUNDRUM, HONG, J. JACOBSON, JOERS, KAUFERT, KIRSCH, KREIBICH, KRUG, MADISON, MAYADEV, MELOTIK, MIRESSE, MOSES, MURPHY, MURSAU, NEDWESKI, NEYLON, NOVAK, O'CONNOR, ORTIZ-VELEZ, PETERSEN, PHELPS, PIWOWARCZYK, PRONSCHINSKE, RIVERA-WAGNER, ROE, SHEEHAN, SINICKI, SNODGRASS, SNYDER, STROUD, SUBECK, SWEARINGEN, TAYLOR, TENORIO, TUSLER, UDELL, VINING, WICHGERS and PENTERMAN, cosponsored by Senators CARPENTER, HABUSH SINYKIN, BRADLEY, CABRAL-GUEVARA, DASSLER-ALFHEIM, DRAKE, FEYEN, HESSELBEIN, HUTTON, JACQUE, JAGLER, LARSON, MARKLEIN, NASS, PFAFF, QUINN, RATCLIFF, ROYS, SMITH, SPREITZER and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.
- 1 **Relating to:** honoring the life and enduring legacy of Robert George Uecker.
- 2 Whereas, Robert George Uecker, better known as Bob Uecker, or "Mr.
- Baseball," was born on January 26, 1934, and passed away on January 16, 2025,
- 4 having reached the age of 90 with a 69-year career in professional baseball; and
- 5 Whereas, Uecker is succeeded in life by his children Sue Ann and Bob Jr. and
- 6 his second wife, Judy, and, sadly, was preceded in death by his children Steve and
- 7 Leann and his first wife, Joyce; and
- 8 Whereas, Uecker was the primary radio broadcaster for his hometown team,
- 9 the Milwaukee Brewers, and, having served in that role for 54 years, is one of the
- 10 longest-tenured broadcasters with one team in the history of Major League
- 11 Baseball; and
- 12 Whereas, Uecker's engaging style as a broadcaster is unrivaled, bringing joy
- 13 to fans, even during less successful Brewers seasons; and

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1	Whereas, Uecker was famously dubbed "Mr. Baseball" by The Tonight Show
2	host Johnny Carson and appeared over 100 times on the show; and
3	Whereas, to many, Uecker's voice is known as "the soundtrack of Summer";
4	and
5	Whereas, Uecker was the son of August Uecker and Mary Schultz Uecker; and
6	Whereas, Uecker was born and raised in Milwaukee and grew up watching the
7	minor league Milwaukee Brewers at Borchert Field; and
8	Whereas, in 1954 Uecker enlisted in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of
9	corporal; and
10	Whereas, during his service to our nation, Uecker played baseball at Fort
11	Leonard Wood and Fort Belvoir; and
12	Whereas, following his service, Uecker signed with the Milwaukee Braves in
13	1956 as a minor league player; and
14	Whereas, in his first season in the minor league, Uecker played with the Eau
15	Claire Bears of the Northern League and the Boise Braves of the Pioneer League;
16	and
17	Whereas, Uecker made his major league debut as a catcher in 1962; and
18	Whereas, prior to the 1964 season, the Milwaukee Braves traded Uecker to the
19	St. Louis Cardinals—the Cardinals won the World Series that season, defeating the
20	New York Yankees; and
21	Whereas, Uecker also played for the Philadelphia Phillies before being traded
22	back to the Braves in 1967, which had moved to Atlanta since Uecker had last
23	played for the team; and
24	Whereas, in 1967, Uecker retired from professional baseball while playing for

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the Atlanta Braves, completing his career as a catcher with a fielding percentage of
 .981 and a batting average of .200; and

Whereas, following his career as a player, Uecker began broadcasting, starting
with WSB-TV in Atlanta, and subsequently calling play-by-play for the Milwaukee
Brewers' radio broadcasts beginning in 1971; and

6 Whereas, Uecker's humor propelled him to great success as a broadcaster, 7 actor, and author, with endeavors in and out of baseball, including several television 8 programs, such as *Bob Uecker's Whacky World of Sports* and *Bob Uecker's War of the* 9 *Stars*, and several books, such as an autobiography titled *Catcher in the Wry* and a 10 baseball memoir and commentary titled *Catch .222*; and

Whereas, Uecker was also a talented actor, starring as George Owens in the sitcom *Mr. Belvedere*, which originally aired from 1985 to 1990, and playing Harry Doyle in the film *Major League*, in which he delivered the famous line "Just a bit outside!"; Uecker also made cameo and in-person appearances in productions such as *The Tonight Show* and *Saturday Night Live*; and

Whereas, Uecker also appeared in a series of famous Miller Lite commercials
during the 1980s, which became the source for one of his wittiest catchphrases—"I
must be in the front row"—and inspired the term "Uecker seats" to describe upperdeck, obstructed-view seats in baseball stadiums; and

Whereas, Uecker's talent is widely recognized and honored with many awards: he was inducted into the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998; he was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2001; he was honored by the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame with the Ford C. Frick Award, presented to broadcasters for major contributions to baseball, in 2003; he was inducted into the National Sportscasters

1 and Sportswriters Association Hall of Fame in 2011; and he was inducted into the $\mathbf{2}$ National Association of Broadcasters Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2012: and 3 Whereas, as the "Voice of the Milwaukee Brewers," Uecker is memorialized 4 with two statues on the grounds of American Family Field: one statue was $\mathbf{5}$ dedicated in 2012 and sits outside the stadium alongside fellow Hall of Famers 6 Hank Aaron, Robin Yount, and Bud Selig; and the other sits in the last row of the 7 "Uecker Seats" on the terrace level of the stadium; and 8 Whereas, Uecker's name can also be found in the inaugural class of the 9 Brewers Wall of Honor and was added to the Brewers Walk of Fame in 2003; and Whereas. the Brewers plan to hold celebrations of Uecker's life later this year 10 11 and have announced plans to create a "Uecker Experience" at American Family 12Field; and 13Whereas, Uecker demonstrated a steadfast commitment to philanthropy, 14 being known to distribute food and other goods to individuals in need and support 15organizations such as the ALS Association, the Make a Wish Foundation, the 16 United Performing Arts Fund, the Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer 17Fund, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee, Big 18 Brothers/Big Sisters, and Wounded Warriors, in addition to advocating for cvstic 19 fibrosis and heart disease research: and 20Whereas, Bob Uecker's unparalleled dedication to baseball, broadcasting,

Whereas, Bob Uecker's unparalleled dedication to baseball, broadcasting, entertainment, and his community enriched the lives of countless fans in Wisconsin and beyond; and

Whereas, Bob Uecker will be sorely missed and enduringly remembered byfans the world over; now, therefore, be it

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1	Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of
2	the Wisconsin Legislature honor the life and enduring legacy of Bob Uecker,
3	recognize his extraordinary contributions to baseball, broadcasting, entertainment,
4	and philanthropy, and extend their deepest condolences to his family, friends, and
5	countless admirers. Get up! Get up! Get outta here! Gone!
6	(END)