



2025 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 76

July 9, 2025 - Introduced by Senators SMITH, RATCLIFF and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Representatives MOSES, PHELPS, SINICKI, STROUD, BROWN, DESMIDT, MURPHY, ROE and SUBECK. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** honoring the life and public service of Senator Bruce S. Peloquin.

2 Whereas, Senator Bruce Peloquin, a dedicated public servant, business
3 executive, and school psychologist, passed away in Eau Claire on October 2, 2024, at
4 the age of 87; and

5 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin was born on November 3, 1936, in Chippewa Falls,
6 the youngest of Anna and Frank Peloquin's 10 children; and

7 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin graduated from McDonell Central Catholic High
8 School in Chippewa Falls in 1954 and went on to receive a bachelor's degree in
9 business administration in 1966 and a master's in school psychology in 1973 from
10 the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and

11 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin's first forays into public service were his two
12 unsuccessful runs for the Chippewa Falls City Council, losing the second race by a
13 mere seven votes, followed by his tenure on the Chippewa County Board from 1962
14 to 1965; and

1 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin was elected to the Wisconsin Assembly in 1964,
2 serving from 1965 to 1971, and was only the second Democrat in the 20th century to
3 hold the seat from Chippewa County; and

4 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin served on the Assembly Committees on Education,
5 Tourism, Elections, Public Welfare, and Review of Administrative Rules, as well as
6 the Committee to Visit State Institutions, the Joint Interim Committee, and the
7 Council on Traffic Law Enforcement; and

8 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin was elected to the Wisconsin Senate and served
9 from 1971 to 1979 with appointments to the Joint Committee on Finance; the
10 Senate Committees on Education, Audit, Government and Veterans' Affairs, and
11 Health, Education and Welfare; the Education Commission of the States; the
12 Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Area Commission Legislative Advisory
13 Committee; the Interim Study Committee on Campus Funding and Faculty Salary
14 Equity in the University of Wisconsin System; the Environmental Education
15 Council; the Special Committee on Education Program Review Project; and
16 Legislative Council committees on education, the school aid formula, and
17 compulsory attendance; and

18 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin's proudest legislative achievements included his role
19 in strengthening child abuse laws, requiring public schools to provide special
20 education, requiring public schools to employ reading specialists, aligning state
21 statute with the state constitution's guarantee of free public education, and
22 supporting the foster grandparent program; and

23 Whereas, in addition to being a legislator, Bruce Peloquin was a "jack of all
24 trades," having worked on a cement crew; tended bar at Glen Loch Saloon; co-owned

1 the Bloomer golf course; been employed at Mason Shoe, Uniroyal Tires, and 3M; and
2 served as a licensed school psychologist at public schools in Greenwood, New
3 Auburn, Gilman, and Cameron; and

4 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin enjoyed golf, card games, back-road travels,
5 auctions, antiques, flea markets, birdwatching, and nature; and

6 Where, Bruce Peloquin was an accomplished woodworker, spending years
7 deconstructing 14 barns from around Wisconsin and a pickle factory in Chippewa
8 Falls to salvage materials for the “recycled house” that he lived in with his wife, and
9 constructing the timber cross that now stands at Round Hill, a sacred site in the
10 community of Arkansaw; and

11 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin was a loving husband to Nancy and a devoted father
12 to his children, Simone, Traci, and Dean; and

13 Whereas, Bruce Peloquin will be remembered for wit, wisdom, and generosity;
14 now, therefore, be it

15 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of
16 the Wisconsin Legislature honor the life and public service of Senator Bruce S.
17 Peloquin and extend their condolences to his family and friends.

18 (END)