



2013 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 68

October 28, 2013 – Introduced by Representatives HESSELBEIN, SARGENT, BARCA, BARNES, BERCEAU, BERNIER, BEWLEY, BIES, BILLINGS, BORN, BROOKS, DANOU, GOYKE, HEBL, HULSEY, HUTTON, JORGENSEN, KAHL, KAPENGA, KERKMAN, KLENKE, KNUDSON, KOLSTE, KOOYENGA, KRUG, T. LARSON, LEMAHIEU, MARKLEIN, MILROY, MURPHY, MURSAU, NASS, NERISON, NYGREN, OHNSTAD, A. OTT, PETRYK, PRIDEMORE, RINGHAND, RIPP, SANFELIPPO, SCHRAA, SMITH, SPIROS, TAUCHEN, THIESFELDT, TITTL, WACHS, WEATHERSTON, WILLIAMS and WRIGHT, cosponsored by Senators WIRCH, HARRIS, LEHMAN, RISSER, SCHULTZ and VINEHOUT. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** commending the Wisconsin Air National Guard 115th Fighter Wing on
2 its 65th anniversary.

3 Whereas, the Wisconsin Air National Guard 115th Fighter Wing was created
4 in 1948; and

5 Whereas, over the last 65 years, much has changed, including aircraft,
6 missions, personnel, technology, and our culture, but the passion and commitment
7 to the profession of arms in the defense of our country and preservation of our
8 freedoms is as strong in 2013 as it was in 1948; and

9 Whereas, the 115th Fighter Wing currently has nearly 1,200 members, of whom
10 nearly 400 are full-time employees who serve our state and country with pride and
11 professionalism; and

12 Whereas, with a local annual financial impact of over \$86 million to Madison
13 and the surrounding areas, 115th Fighter Wing members are responsible citizens
14 who are college students and employees of local businesses with strong relationships
15 and partnerships in the community; and

1 Whereas, Wisconsin's 115th Fighter Wing is an equal partner in our nation's
2 defense as well as a cost-effective answer in our domestic response missions, with
3 highly trained personnel and equipment positioned to respond to support the
4 civilians in our state and region in emergencies such as floods, tornadoes,
5 snowstorms, and other disasters with heavy equipment, civil engineering,
6 emergency response medical professionals, and mobile ER ready to respond to
7 emergencies as needed, as well as supporting law enforcement agencies on a
8 moment's notice; and

9 Whereas, the 115th Fighter Wing's RC-26 aircrew supports civilian defense,
10 executing national missions in support of southwestern border operations, responds
11 to national natural disasters such as Hurricane Ike and Hurricane Katrina, and
12 helps support law enforcement agencies to reduce the supply of drugs into our
13 community; the RC-26 aircrew provides a perfect example of executing state and
14 federal missions from base while stateside, between continuous overseas combat
15 deployments; the 115th Fighter Wing has aircraft, aircrew and maintenance, and
16 support personnel armed, positioned, and ready to respond and deter threats to our
17 homeland, having been effectively executing our country's highest-priority mission
18 of homeland defense 24/7/365 since the September 11 attacks; and

19 Whereas, the Air National Guard's three priorities: to defend the homeland, to
20 support state and federal missions, and to do it better and more efficiently, are
21 fulfilled daily; in the words of their commander, "We are ready. We are relevant. We
22 are accessible. We are dedicated to excellence!"; now, therefore, be it

23 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
24 legislature honors and congratulates the Wisconsin Air National Guard's 115th

1 Fighter Wing on its 65 years of dedicated service to the people of Wisconsin and the
2 United States of America.

3 (END)