



2013 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 78

December 6, 2013 - Introduced by Representatives BERCEAU, C. TAYLOR, HEBL, SARGENT, PETRYK, KAHL, YOUNG, VRUWINK, BERNARD SCHABER, KOLSTE, HESSELBEIN, SPIROS, POPE, WRIGHT, SHANKLAND, OHNSTAD and RINGHAND, cosponsored by Senators RISSER, ERPENBACH, MILLER and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** commending the Waisman Center on its 40th anniversary.

2 Whereas, the precursor to the Waisman Center research programs was created
3 in 1963, the current facility opened in 1973, and under the recommendation of a
4 Kennedy Administration presidential panel, the University of Wisconsin-Madison
5 was chosen as one of 15 Eunice Kennedy Shriver Intellectual and Developmental
6 Disabilities Research Centers, thus establishing the Waisman Center; and

7 Whereas, the Waisman Center is a state, national, and international leader in
8 academic research, clinical service, and community outreach for individuals with
9 developmental disabilities and neurodegenerative diseases; and

10 Whereas, the Waisman Center has provided clinical services to more than
11 160,000 people, and has trained 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students in the
12 areas of developmental disabilities and neurodegenerative diseases; and

13 Whereas, the Waisman Center is a world leader in the use of cellular-based
14 strategies to investigate brain development in Down syndrome, fragile X syndrome,
15 Rett syndrome, and other developmental disorders and to create therapeutic

1 applications for Parkinson's disease, ALS, and other neurodegenerative diseases;
2 and

3 Whereas, in 1975 the Waisman Center initiated one of the first genetics
4 counseling programs in the United States, and remains the only program of its kind
5 in Wisconsin; and

6 Whereas, the Waisman Center is an ongoing resource for the Madison
7 community and the state of Wisconsin through its extensive training for service
8 providers, its community outreach program, and its establishment of the Waisman
9 Resource Center for families of children and adults with special health care needs;
10 and

11 Whereas, the Waisman Center is dedicated to serving children and youth with
12 special health care needs. Through its comprehensive Wisconsin Children with
13 Special Health Care Needs program, the Waisman Center provides a statewide
14 network of thorough and free-of-charge support services for youth from birth to 21
15 years of age; and

16 Whereas, in 2001 the Waisman Center significantly expanded its facility,
17 including the creation of the Waisman Laboratory for Brain Imaging and Behavior
18 and Waisman Biomanufacturing which yielded a unique combination of resources
19 integral to translational research; and

20 Whereas, the Waisman Center is the only center in the United States that fully
21 houses both an Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center and
22 University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities in one facility; now,
23 therefore, be it

