

Speaker of the Wisconsin State Assembly

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2017

For Further Information Contact: Speaker Robin Vos (608) 266-3387 Rep.Vos@legis.wi.gov

## Tommy G. Thompson Day Resolution Passes Assembly

Speaker Vos authors resolution to make Nov. 19 Tommy G. Thompson Day

**Madison**...The Wisconsin State Assembly will now officially recognize November 19 as Tommy G. Thompson Day, the birthday of Wisconsin's longest serving governor. State representatives approved the <u>Assembly Joint Resolution 61</u> that honors the Assembly alumnus who dedicated his life to public service.

"Tommy Thompson made an unprecedented impact on the state of Wisconsin and the country," said Speaker Vos. "He made significant reforms, bridged political divides and is universally admired."

Governor Thompson's major accomplishments are in the areas of welfare, school choice and health care. His welfare-to-work law provided state-support to working families and became a national model. Thompson also created the nation's first school choice program and expanded health care coverage for low-income, working families.

"Every year on November 19<sup>th</sup>, we should not only wish Tommy Thompson a happy birthday, but we should also take time to recognize everything he has done for Wisconsin and our nation," said Speaker Vos.

Thompson was born in Elroy, Wisconsin. After getting his bachelor and law degrees at the UW Madison, he served in both the Wisconsin Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserves. Thompson was a state representative for two decades and then, elected to four-terms as governor. He left the state office to become the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services under President George W. Bush.

On hand for the passage of the bipartisan Tommy G. Thompson resolution were his wife, Sue Ann Thompson, his daughter Tommi Thompson and two-year old grandchild Teddy Duffy. Several of his former gubernatorial aides also were present for the vote.

###



The 63rd Assembly District includes the communities of Rochester, Burlington, Town of Burlington, Yorkville Rover, Union Grove, Mount Peakant, Sturtevant.

, Thompson's tireless years of service in Wisconsin government 13instilled the tradition of civic involvement for all Wisconsinites; and

14 Whereas, Thompson's lifelong dedication to the state of Wisconsin and his 15never-ending optimism have ensured that Wisconsin has been and always will be 16moving forward; now, therefore, be it

17*Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That* the Wisconsin18Legislature hereby recognizes November 19, 2017, and subsequent yearly19anniversaries as "Tommy G. Thompson Day."