ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: encouraging the administration to develop a sister–state relationship with Belgorod.

Whereas, Belgorod is one of the provinces of the Russian Federation that is seeking to strengthen its own identity, to develop itself further and to establish international relationships; and

Whereas, Belgorod has several similarities to Wisconsin, such as an important dairy industry, a large production of grain crops and the hospitality of its people; and

Whereas, Belgorod and Wisconsin have begun to establish relationships, such as an exchange program between Marian College and 2 institutions of higher learning in Belgorod, an exchange of psychiatrists earlier this year and a series of visits; and

Whereas, Belgorod's leaders have made it clear that they wish to strengthen the relationship between their province and Wisconsin by establishing a sister-state relationship; and

Whereas, a sister-state relationship would benefit both Wisconsin and Belgorod by facilitating an exchange of information and ideas, by promoting travel between the 2 regions and by increasing the number of exchange programs between them; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature encourage the administration to establish a sister–state relationship between Wisconsin and Belgorod; and, be it further

Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to Dr. Yuri Seliverstov, the chairman of the Belgorod Regional Duma.

Senator Brian D. Rude President of the Senate	Representative David T. Prosser, Jr. Speaker of the Assembly
President of the Senate	Speaker of the Assembly
Date	Charles R. Sanders Assembly Chief Clerk