



State of Wisconsin
2007 - 2008 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4163/3
SRM:kjf:nwn

2007 SENATE RESOLUTION 24

February 27, 2008 – Introduced by Senators COGGS, TAYLOR, CARPENTER, LASSA and ROESSLER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Reverend Richard Kirkendoll.

2 Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll was a leading voice in the fight for
3 civil rights during the Open Housing Marches in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the
4 1960's; and

5 Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll was described as “the Black Moses”
6 to Father James Groppi’s “White Moses” for their dedication to the Open Housing
7 Marches, with Reverend Kirkendoll known to participate in every march that took
8 place; and

9 Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll was particularly known for his
10 personal protection of children who participated in the marches, including sheltering
11 them at his church and, at a particularly violent march at the 16th Street Viaduct,
12 telling a young girl “Come on, baby, get behind me. I’ll protect you”; and

13 Whereas, the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll lived a life of service to his country
14 and community prior to the Open Housing Marches, enlisting in the United States

1 Navy during World War II before moving to Milwaukee and serving as a counselor
2 with ICDP, the Inner City Development Program; and

3 Whereas, the adoption of this senate resolution is supported not only by the
4 senate, but also by members of the assembly, including specifically Representatives
5 Young, Grigsby, Turner, Zepnick, Sheridan, and Toles; now, therefore, be it

6 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the members of the Wisconsin senate honor the
7 life and service of the Reverend Richard Kirkendoll for his dedication in the face of
8 often extreme adversity to the civil rights and the future of our children of Milwaukee
9 and for the benefit of his community.

10 (END)