

1 2016 RES-292

2 COMMEMORATING AND REAFFIRMING DANE COUNTY'S SISTER COUNTY
3 RELATIONSHIP WITH LANDKREIS KASSEL, GERMANY

4 In 2007 Dane County entered into a cooperative agreement with Landkreis Kassel,
5 Hessen, Germany to form a sister county relationship. The purpose of the agreement
6 was to exchange ideas and build economic partnerships in the areas of renewable
7 energy, regional transportation systems, workforce training and continuing education
8 and cultural exchange.

9 Kassel, a county with a population of approximately 193,000, has a regional transport
10 system, is home to a university and the Institute for Solar Energy Technologies. The
11 area hosts a high- technology based economy focused on traffic, logistics, and
12 renewable energies with its main industries being systems technology for photovoltaics,
13 the manufacture of train engines, and automotive factories for Volkswagen and Daimler-
14 Chrysler.

15 Throughout the last nine years, both Kassel and Dane County have remained
16 committed to the goals that were set forth in the cooperative agreement as
17 demonstrated by multiple exchanges between the counties.

18 A delegation from Dane County went to Kassel in 2007 to experience and learn about
19 Kassel's commuter rail structure, solar energy initiatives, and the international
20 *Documenta* Art Festival. Representatives from Kassel came to Dane County in 2008 to
21 witness water resource management, visit agri-businesses, tour an organic farm, and
22 attend a performance at Concerts on the Square, as well as a Mallards baseball game.

23 The Kassel Fine Arts Curator and local officials brought a Brothers Grimm artwork
24 exhibit in 2010 to the Dane County Regional Airport terminal and in 2012 Michael
25 Velliquette travelled to Kassel to represent Dane County as part of an international
26 contemporary art show. Dane County welcomed artist and photographer, Christian
27 Schauderna, from Kassel in 2014 as an Artist-In-Residence at Edgewood College,
28 where he created a new work in the Edgewood College Gallery. And Dane County
29 chamber music group, *con vivo!*, traveled to Kassel in 2015 to participate in the
30 Kultursommer NordHessen Arts Festival.

31 Most recently, in 2016 the Kassel-Dane Task Force invited the Edgar Knecht Trio to
32 Dane County to perform one concert at the Stoughton Opera House, collaborate with
33 the chamber music group *con vivo!* to perform a concert at First Congregational Church,
34 and hold a master class with the Madison College Big Band and perform in a joint
35 concert at Mitby Theatre.

36 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dane County seeks to commemorate and
37 reaffirm our enriching sister county relationship with Landkreis Kassel in the coming
38 years;

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County recognizes and observes German
40 Unity Day on Oct. 3rd and German-American Friendship Day on Oct. 6th, by flying the
41 German flag at the City-County Building in Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin.

42 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to Harald
43 Kühnborn, Kassel representative for Public Relations / Culture / International
44 Cooperation and Office of Medical Care in Rural Areas.