

## 2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 9

February 10, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives Hebl, Nerison, Benedict, Berceau, Bies, Black, Brooks, Gunderson, Hixson, Hubler, Murtha, Parisi, Petrowski, Pocan, Pope-Roberts, Sinicki, Spanbauer, Townsend, Turner, A. Williams and Toles, cosponsored by Senators Miller, Hansen, Lassa, Lazich, Lehman, Olsen, Plale, Risser, Schultz, Taylor, Vinehout and Coggs. Referred to Committee on Rules.

**Relating to:** proclaiming May 15, 16, and 17, 2009, Syttende Mai Weekend. 1 2 Whereas, Norway, which means "Northern Way," is the fifth-largest country in 3 Europe, covering 125,052 square miles, and has a population of approximately 4,000,000; and 4 5 Whereas, Norwegian immigrants have made countless contributions to the 6 cultures of Wisconsin and other regions of the United States; and 7 Whereas, one out of every twelve Wisconsinites claims Norwegian ancestry; 8 and 9 Whereas, "Syttende Mai," Norwegian for "May 17," celebrates the anniversary 10 of the 1814 signing of the Norwegian Constitution that declared Norway's independence from Denmark; and 11 12 Whereas, the Norwegian Constitution is the third-oldest in the world, being 13 predated only by the constitutions of the United States and France; and

Whereas, Norwegian culture can be found throughout Wisconsin in the cuisine of lutefisk and lefse, in the art of rosemaling, and in the presence of wood-carved trolls; and

Whereas, Wisconsin communities, such as Stoughton, Blair, Mt. Horeb, Westby, and Woodville, will celebrate "Syttende Mai" in many ways, including parades, Norwegian displays, Norwegian street music and dancers, "Syttende Mai" King and Queen presentations, "Syttende Mai" runs, special museum tours, choral concerts, church services, and Norwegian drama; and

Whereas, thousands of Wisconsin citizens of Norwegian heritage will participate in these activities during the month of May; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature proclaims the weekend of May 15, 16, and 17, 2009, "Syttende Mai Weekend" in the state of Wisconsin, and declares that all citizens of this state are honorary Norwegians for that weekend and are urged to observe the "Syttende Mai Weekend" with appropriate celebrations.

16 (END)