



2009 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 16

December 15, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives Richards, Bies, Sinicki, Stone, Van Roy, Benedict, Kessler, Soletski, Milroy, Bernard Schaber, Pasch, Cullen, Honadel, Zigmunt, Ziegelbauer, Hraychuck, Berceau, Turner, Hintz, Molepske Jr., A. Williams, Steinbrink, Gottlieb, Schneider, Barca, Hixson, Clark, Black, Van Akkeren, Pope-Roberts, Hilgenberg, Townsend, Hebl. Zepnick and Mursau. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: urging and authorizing the attorney general to pursue every legal 1 2 means available to prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes. 3 Whereas, the state of Illinois constructed the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal over 100 years ago, connecting the Great Lakes Basin to the Mississippi River Basin 4 5 in order to move Chicago's sewage away from Lake Michigan; and 6 Whereas, the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, in addition to diverting billions 7 of gallons of water from Lake Michigan each day, also opens a channel of 8 communication between the lake and the lower Mississippi basin; and 9 Whereas, Asian carp, an invasive, non-native species, have migrated 10 northward through the Mississippi River Basin, advancing as close as 20 miles from 11 Lake Michigan; and 12 Whereas, an invasion of Asian carp into Lake Michigan would devastate native wildlife and cause incalculable economic loss and irreversible damage to recreational 13 14 fishing on the Great Lakes and the resulting tourism industry; and

1	Whereas, the well-documented threat of invading Asian carp has been known
2	to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state officials in Illinois for years; and
3	Whereas, the state of Illinois has constructed an inadequate and ineffective
4	electric barrier to prevent Asian carp from migrating through the Chicago Sanitary
5	and Ship Canal; and
6	Whereas, much more aggressive measures must be taken to avert the
7	impending ecological and economic disaster; and
8	Whereas, aggressive legal action will force the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
9	and the state of Illinois to act speedily and effectively; now, therefore, be it
10	Resolved by the assembly, That pursuant to section 165.25 (1m) of the
11	Wisconsin statutes, the assembly urges and authorizes the attorney general to
12	vigorously pursue every legal means available to prevent Asian carp from entering
13	the Great Lakes.
14	(END)