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2001 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 30

April 4, 2001 - Introduced by Joint Legislative Council. Referred to Committee on Environmental Resources.

Relating to: memorializing the U.S. Congress to provide funding for research on recycled lumber by the Forest Products Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This joint resolution was prepared for the joint legislative council's special committee on the historic building code. The joint legislative council established the special committee and directed it to study the Wisconsin historic building code and its administration to ensure that the code effectively facilitates practical, cost-effective and safe historic rehabilitation projects, as well as any related issues.

Whereas, during the last century, millions of residential homes, commercial and industrial buildings, bridges, and other structures have been built from sawn lumber; and

Whereas, many of these structures are being demolished, resulting in the loss of a large amount of lumber potentially available for reuse; and

Whereas, maximizing the reuse of lumber from demolished structures has many positive environmental consequences such as reducing the volume of construction waste disposed of in landfills, conserving natural resources, and easing the pressure to harvest existing forested land; and 1

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Whereas, the reuse of lumber salvaged from buildings cannot occur at meaningful volumes until markets are developed for used lumber; and

Whereas, the widespread acceptance of used lumber in new construction is impeded by a lack of appropriate grading standards for used lumber that would permit contractors to select used lumber to meet the specifications of architects and engineers for new construction; and

Whereas, the Forest Products Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service in Madison, Wisconsin, has begun to collect data on the structural qualities of used lumber by removing timbers from older buildings and testing them; and

Whereas, this research is the first step in a process that will culminate in national grading rules that may be adopted by regional lumber-grading agencies and that may be used to grade and stamp used lumber; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature urge the U.S. Congress to appropriate the money necessary to fully fund research by the Forest Products Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service on recycled lumber; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to the President of the United States, to the U.S. secretary of agriculture and to all members of the congressional delegation from this state.

21 (END)