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2005 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 16

February 17, 2005 - Introduced by Representatives Hebl, Pocan, Parisi, Black, BENEDICT, MUSSER, KERKMAN, BOYLE, OWENS, HAHN, PETROWSKI, ALBERS, LEHMAN, VAN AKKEREN, SHERIDAN, KESSLER, TRAVIS, POPE-ROBERTS, SEIDEL, Toles, Berceau, Shilling, Colon, Zepnick, Grigsby, Steinbrink, Hines and GUNDERSON, cosponsored by Senators MILLER, RISSER and KAPANKE. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1	Relating to: proclaiming May 13, 14, and 15, 2005, Syttende Mai Weekend.
2	Whereas, Norway, which means "Northern Way," is the 5th largest country in
3	Europe, covering 125,052 square miles, and has a population of approximately
4	4,000,000; and
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 12 Wisconsinites claims Norwegian ancestry; and
8	Whereas, "Syttende Mai," Norwegian for "May 14," celebrates the anniversary
9	of the 1814 signing of the Norwegian Constitution that declared Norway's
10	independence from Denmark; and
11	Whereas, the Norwegian Constitution is the 3rd oldest in the world, being
12	predated only by the constitutions of the United States and France; and
13	Whereas, Norwegian culture can be found throughout Wisconsin in the cuisine
14	of lutefisk and lefse, in the art of rosemaling, and in the presence of wood-carved

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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 13, 14, and 15, 2005, "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.

13 (END)