



1999 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 11

March 2, 1999 - Introduced by Senators DRZEWIECKI, SHIBILSKI, MOEN, ZIEN, GROBSCHMIDT, SCHULTZ, DARLING and ERPENBACH, cosponsored by Representatives RYBA, SUDER, PLALE, RHOADES, HAHN, SYKORA, URBAN, MONTGOMERY, KRUG, GRONEMUS, BOCK, MILLER, SERATTI, KREUSER and OWENS. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming May 3rd of every year, Trzeciego Maja Day.

2 Whereas, "Trzeciego Maja", May 3, 1999, marks the 208th anniversary of the
3 signing of the Polish Constitution on May 3, 1791; and

4 Whereas, the Polish Constitution was the first written constitution in Europe;
5 and

6 Whereas, the Polish Constitution, modeled after that of the United States,
7 established the bold principle that the power to govern emanates from the people;
8 and

9 Whereas, the Polish Constitution established a bicameral legislature, a system
10 of checks and balances, an elected judiciary and trial by jury, the concept of habeas
11 corpus and freedom of religion; and

12 Whereas, this document, described as "radical, if not revolutionary" by the
13 tyrants of 18th century Europe, was nonetheless adopted without bloodshed; and

14 Whereas, the Polish Constitution was the product of a cross section of the best
15 Polish political thought of the time, far-reaching in intent, with the promise for all

