



2005 SENATE RESOLUTION 11

November 29, 2005 – Introduced by Senators REYNOLDS and HANSEN. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** urging all members of Wisconsin’s delegation to the United States
2 Congress to vote no on any agreement for the United States to enter into a Free
3 Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) at this time.

4 Whereas, the United States of America has always been the world leader in
5 promoting free trade, which is the hallmark of our capitalistic society; and

6 Whereas, free trade only thrives when there is a level playing field of
7 government regulation between trading partners; and

8 Whereas, the 1993 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was
9 supposed to bring additional prosperity to the United States and level the playing
10 field with Canada and Mexico, perpetuating free trade between our nations; and

11 Whereas, notwithstanding the good intentions of NAFTA, our nation has
12 suffered the loss of almost 900,000 jobs due to NAFTA, many of them in the
13 manufacturing sector; and

14 Whereas, the United States has gone from a trade surplus with Mexico prior
15 to NAFTA to a substantial trade deficit; and

1 Whereas, the United States is a current member of the World Trade
2 Organization (WTO), and the United States consistently bows to the wishes of the
3 WTO and surrenders our nation’s sovereignty by allowing an international
4 governing body to dictate what our laws should be; and

5 Whereas, both the WTO and NAFTA, through the use of trade tribunals, now
6 claim sovereign authority to overrule decisions of American courts and make awards
7 to foreign businesses for violations of trade agreements; and

8 Whereas, both the WTO and NAFTA shift power away from state and local
9 governments towards international trade tribunals operating under international
10 law, instead of domestic statutory or constitutional law; and

11 Whereas, the United States is considering entering into a new 34-member Free
12 Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA); and

13 Whereas, based upon the experience that the United States has had with
14 NAFTA and the WTO, United States membership in the planned FTAA would
15 increase the exodus of manufacturing from Wisconsin and the United States to other
16 countries; now, therefore, be it

17 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the senate of the state of Wisconsin respectfully
18 but firmly urges all members of Wisconsin’s delegation to the United States Congress
19 to vote no on any agreement for the United States to enter into the FTAA at this time;
20 and, be it further

21 ***Resolved, That*** the senate of the state of Wisconsin urges the United States
22 Congress to not enter into the FTAA until the United States has a greater
23 understanding of the impacts of NAFTA, the WTO, and the Central America Free
24 Trade Agreement (CAFTA); and, be it further

