

## 1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 17

January 28, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives JOHNSRUD, J. LEHMAN, RYBA, GOETSCH, MEYER, BOCK, OWENS, POCAN, MILLER, PLOUFF, BLACK, HASENOHRL, LASSA, GUNDERSON and BOYLE, cosponsored by Senators RUDE, ROBSON and GEORGE. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** memorializing Congress to work toward an international ban on land  
2           mines.

3           Whereas, there are over 119,000,000 land mines scattered in 70 nations of the  
4     world, and this number increases dramatically every year, the result of which is the  
5     injury or death of 2,000 people a month; and

6           Whereas, these weapons continue to harm civilians and to prevent homes, land  
7     and communities from being free of danger and destruction and make it impossible  
8     for sustainable life to be resumed when war has ended; and

9           Whereas, numerous U.S. military leaders confirm that land mines pose a threat  
10    to U.S. troops abroad and confirm that antipersonnel land mines no longer are  
11    necessary weapons of war; and

12          Whereas, the United States declared a moratorium until 1999 on the export of  
13    antipersonnel land mines and in 1996 called, by means of President Clinton's  
14    address to the United Nations, for a universal ban on the transfer and use of

1 antipersonnel land mines and for the protection of civilians by removing the land  
2 mines already laid in the ground; and

3 Whereas, the United States' backing of the U.N. Conference on Disarmament  
4 is an uncertain and contradictory approach to the permanent elimination of the  
5 manufacture, sale and use of land mines and does not complement the more positive  
6 diplomatic approach of the Ottawa initiative, which has a high level of international  
7 support; and

8 Whereas, momentum is growing for a worldwide ban, and the support of the  
9 Ottawa process by the United States would show significant leadership toward that  
10 goal; now, therefore, be it

11 ***Resolved, by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the  
12 Wisconsin legislature urge President Clinton and the Congress of the United States  
13 to work toward a universal ban of the production, sale and use of land mines by  
14 supporting the diplomatic "Ottawa process" in order to achieve an international ban  
15 treaty in 1999; and, be it further

16 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint  
17 resolution to President Clinton and to each member of this state's congressional  
18 delegation.

19 (END)