

## 1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 105

March 2, 2000 – Introduced by Representatives GROTHMAN, FREESE, GOETSCH, KREUSER, MUSSER, OWENS, SPILLNER and SYKORA, cosponsored by Senator SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** urging Congress to enact legislation requiring mandatory inspection  
2             of ratites under the federal Poultry Products Inspection Act.

3             Whereas, currently, under the federal Poultry Products Inspection Act, poultry  
4     products from animals such as chickens and turkeys are required to be federally  
5     inspected in order to be sold in interstate commerce; and

6             Whereas, under current federal law, ratites (ostriches, emus and rheas) are  
7     excluded from mandatory inspection, but a ratite producer may obtain voluntary  
8     inspection, the cost of which must be paid by the producer; and

9             Whereas, the cost of voluntary inspection results in higher prices for ratite  
10    meat; and

11            Whereas, ratite meat is low in fat and high in protein; and

12            Whereas, most ratite producers are small, family-owned operations; and

13            Whereas, legislation has been introduced in Congress to cover ratites raised for  
14    human consumption under the Poultry Products Inspection Act, eliminating the  
15    costly inspection fees that other meat producers are not required to pay; and

