

1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 107

March 7, 2000 – Introduced by Representatives HUNDERTMARK, TOWNSEND, MONTGOMERY, MUSSER, JENSEN, STONE, KELSO, HUTCHISON, OLSEN, ZIEGELBAUER, SYKORA, RHOADES, URBAN, TURNER, LADWIG, MILLER, PORTER, GOETSCH, SPILLNER, LEIBHAM, SKINDRUD, OWENS and SCHOOFF, cosponsored by Senators ROESSLER, LAZICH, ROSENZWEIG and DARLING. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** memorializing Congress to pass “The Senior Citizen’s Freedom to Work
2 Act” (H.R.) 5, eliminating the Social Security earnings limit.

3 Whereas, under current law, Social Security recipients who are aged 65 to 69
4 have their benefits reduced by \$1 for every \$3 that they earn above \$17,000 annually;
5 and

6 Whereas, this limit costs about 800,000 recipients all or part of their benefits;
7 and

8 Whereas, this limit produces the appearance of a 33% tax in addition to income
9 and payroll taxes that senior citizens already have to pay; and

10 Whereas, the Social Security earnings cap does not provide the federal
11 government with additional revenue, because the lost benefits are returned as
12 increased Social Security payments once a recipient reaches the age of 70; and

13 Whereas, a noted economist believes that elimination of the earnings cap would
14 allow seniors to work enough hours that it would be equivalent to adding 70,000
15 full-time workers to the Nation’s workforce; and

1 Whereas, in a limited labor market with only 4% unemployment, we must
2 encourage our trained, skilled seniors to continue to be productive members of
3 society through continued employment; now, therefore, it be

4 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
5 Wisconsin legislature urge Congress to enact “The Senior Citizen’s Freedom to Work
6 Act” (H.R. 5), eliminating the Social Security earnings limit; and, be it further

7 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
8 resolution to the president and secretary of the U.S. senate, to the speaker and clerk
9 of the U.S. house of representatives and to each member of the congressional
10 delegation from this state attesting the adoption of this joint resolution by the 1999
11 legislature of the state of Wisconsin.

12

(END)