

1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 115

March 15, 2000 – Introduced by Representatives RICHARDS, BERCEAU, MUSSER, J. LEHMAN, BOCK, BLACK, POCAN, HASENOHRL, TURNER, HUNDERTMARK, BOYLE, JOHNSRUD, RYBA, COLON, HEBL, TOWNSEND, WASSERMAN, MILLER and PLOUFF, cosponsored by Senators ROBSON, RISSER, BURKE, BAUMGART, DARLING, MOORE and PLACHE. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** strongly urging the U.S. senate to ratify the United Nations
2 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

3 Whereas, the United States supports and has been an active participant in the
4 drafting and is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of
5 All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, but the U.S. senate has failed to ratify
6 the Convention; and

7 Whereas, the spirit of the Convention is rooted in the goals of the United
8 Nations and the United States, to affirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the
9 dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women;
10 and

11 Whereas, the Convention provides a comprehensive framework for challenging
12 the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based on sex
13 against one-half of the world's population; and

14 Whereas, although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality
15 in social, business, political, legal, education and other fields in this century, there

1 is much yet to be accomplished and through its support, leadership and prestige, the
2 United States can help create a world where women are no longer discriminated
3 against and have achieved one of the most fundamental of human rights, equality;
4 and

5 Whereas, the United States government signed the Convention in 1980 and
6 submitted it to the U.S. senate for ratification, and ratification would also entitle the
7 United States to join the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms
8 of Discrimination Against Women, which monitors reports of progress in the
9 treatment of women from the countries that have ratified the convention; and

10 Whereas, as of October 1999, a total of 165 countries have consented to be bound
11 by the Convention, and 10 states — California, Iowa, Hawaii, Illinois House, Maine,
12 Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota and
13 Vermont — had endorsed U.S. ratification in their state legislatures; now, therefore,
14 be it

15 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
16 legislature of Wisconsin support the continuing goals of the United Nations
17 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and
18 strongly urge the U.S. senate to ratify the Convention; and, be it further

19 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
20 resolution to the President of the United States, to the secretary of state of the United
21 States, to the president and secretary of the U.S. senate, to the speaker and clerk of
22 the U.S. house of representatives, to the chair and members of the Senate Foreign
23 Relations Committee, and to each member of the congressional delegation from this

1 state attesting the adoption of this joint resolution by the 1999 legislature of the state
2 of Wisconsin.

3 (END)