

## 1999 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

February 24, 1999 – Introduced by Senators CHVALA, MOEN, ERPENBACH, GROBSCHMIDT, HUELSMAN, BURKE, DRZEWIECKI, SCHULTZ, CLAUSING and RUDE, cosponsored by Representatives HEBL, JOHNSRUD, KLUSMAN, BOYLE, KRUG, POCAN, MILLER, HAHN, PORTER, BERCEAU, ALBERS, BOCK, MUSSER, GUNDERSON and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming May 14, 15 and 16, 1999, as Syttende Mai Weekend.

2       Whereas, Norway, which means “Northern Way”, is the 5th largest country in  
3 Europe, covering 125,052 square miles, and has a population of approximately  
4 4,000,000; and

5       Whereas, Norwegian immigrants have made countless contributions to the  
6 cultures of Wisconsin and other regions of the United States; and

7       Whereas, one out of every 12 Wisconsinites claims Norwegian ancestry; and

8       Whereas, Syttende Mai, Norwegian for May 17, celebrates the anniversary of  
9 the 1814 signing of the Norwegian Constitution that declared Norway’s  
10 independence from Denmark; and

11       Whereas, the Norwegian Constitution is the 3rd oldest in the world, being  
12 predated only by the constitutions of the United States and France; and

13       Whereas, Norwegian culture can be found throughout Wisconsin in the cuisine  
14 of lutefisk and lefse, in the art of rosemalling and in the presence of wood-carved  
15 trolls; and

1           Whereas, Wisconsin communities, such as Stoughton, Blair, Westby and  
2 Woodville, will celebrate Syttende Mai in many ways, including parades, Norwegian  
3 displays, Norwegian street music and dancers, Syttende Mai King and Queen  
4 presentations, Syttende Mai runs, special museum tours, choral concerts, church  
5 services and Norwegian drama; and

6           Whereas, thousands of Wisconsin citizens of Norwegian heritage will  
7 participate in these activities during the month of May; now, therefore, be it

8           ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the weekend of  
9 May 14, 15 and 16, 1999, is proclaimed “Syttende Mai Weekend” in the state of  
10 Wisconsin, and that all of the citizens of this state are declared honorary Norwegians  
11 for that weekend and are urged to observe the Syttende Mai Weekend with  
12 appropriate celebrations.

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(END)