2001 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 99

March 4, 2002 – Introduced by Representatives Richards, Sinicki, J. Lehman, Bock, Balow, Berceau, Plouff, Miller, Turner, Lassa, Boyle, and Coggs, cosponsored by Senators Robson and Burke. Referred to Committee on Rules.


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

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

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

Whereas, although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal, education, and other fields in this century, there
is much yet to be accomplished and through its support, leadership, and prestige, the United States can help create a world where women are no longer discriminated against and have achieved one of the most fundamental of human rights, equality; and

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

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

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

Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to the President of the United States, to the secretary of state of the United States, to the president and secretary of the U.S. senate, to the speaker and clerk of the U.S. house of representatives, to the chair and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and to each member of the congressional delegation from this
state attesting the adoption of this joint resolution by the 2001 legislature of the state of Wisconsin.