2003 SENATE RESOLUTION 9

May 5, 2003 – Introduced by Senators ZIEN, RISSER, SCHULTZ and DARLING. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1	Relating to: supporting the admission of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to the
2	North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
3	Whereas, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are free, democratic, and
4	independent nations with a long and proud history; and
5	Whereas, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania struggled long and hard to throw off
6	the yoke of oppression imposed upon them by the former Soviet Union; and
7	Whereas, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is dedicated to the
8	preservation of freedom and security for its member nations; and
9	Whereas, since 1994, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have been active members
10	of NATO's Partnership for Peace program of cooperation between NATO and
11	individual partner countries, and are contributing to NATO's peace operations in the
12	Balkans and central Asia, and are developing their defense capabilities through
13	close coordination with NATO through the Membership Action Program; and

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1	Whereas, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania desire to share in both the benefits
2	and the obligations of NATO in pursuing the development, growth, and promotion
3	of democratic institutions and ensuring free market economic development; and
4	Whereas, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania recognize their responsibilities as
5	democratic nations and are exercising such responsibilities in concert with members
6	of NATO — an example being their declaration along with full NATO members of
7	solidarity and support for the United States in the common fight against terrorism;
8	and
9	Whereas, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania and the United States, as well as
10	other members of NATO and other qualified NATO candidate countries, find that
11	their security is indivisible from the stability of central Europe and the Baltic Sea
12	region; and
13	Whereas, the Council of State Governments of the United States passed a
14	resolution in April 2002 endorsing the enlargement of NATO to include Estonia,
15	Latvia, and Lithuania, and other qualified candidate nations who share the values
16	fundamental to NATO; now, therefore, be it
17	Resolved by the senate, That the members of the Wisconsin senate urge
18	NATO to admit Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, and other qualified candidate
19	nations, into NATO; and, be it further
20	Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall send a copy of this resolution to
21	NATO.
22	(END)