

2005 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 16

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming May 13, 14, and 15, 2005, 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
9 of 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 rosemaling, and in the presence of wood-carved
15 trolls; and

1 Whereas, Wisconsin communities, such as Stoughton, Blair, Mt. Horeb, Westby,
2 and Woodville, will celebrate “Syttende Mai” in many ways, including parades,
3 Norwegian displays, Norwegian street music and dancers, “Syttende Mai” King and
4 Queen presentations, “Syttende Mai” runs, special museum tours, choral concerts,
5 church 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 assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
9 legislature proclaims the weekend of May 13, 14, and 15, 2005, “Syttende Mai
10 Weekend” in the state of Wisconsin, and declares that all citizens of this state are
11 honorary Norwegians for that weekend and are urged to observe the “Syttende Mai
12 Weekend” with appropriate celebrations.

13 (END)