



## 2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 118

March 11, 2010 – Introduced by Representatives NERISON, HEBL, TAUCHEN, ROYS, POPE-ROBERTS, GUNDERSON, BERCEAU, TOWNSEND, TURNER and JORGENSEN, cosponsored by Senators KAPANKE, MILLER, VINEHOUT, SCHULTZ, LEHMAN, PLALE, OLSEN, TAYLOR, WIRCH, GROTHMAN, RISSER and COWLES. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** proclaiming May 14, 15, and 16, 2010, Syttende Mai Weekend.

2             Whereas, Norway, which means “Northern Way,” is the fifth–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 third–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 Westby, Stoughton, Blair, Mt. Horeb,  
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 14, 15, and 16, 2010, “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.

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(END)