



2013 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 37

1 **Relating to:** requesting the International Olympic Committee to keep wrestling in
2 the Olympic Games.

3 Whereas, the executive board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)
4 reviewed 26 sports on its summer program and decided to cut wrestling, stunning
5 the world's wrestlers, who see their sport as popular and steeped in history as old as
6 the Olympics themselves; and

7 Whereas, while wrestling will be included at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de
8 Janeiro, it will not be included in the 2020 Olympic Games; and

9 Whereas, the executive board of the IOC voted after reviewing an IOC program
10 commission report that analyzed 39 criteria, including TV ratings, ticket sales,
11 global participation, and popularity; and

12 Whereas, according to IOC documents, wrestling ranked "low" in several of the
13 technical criteria; and

1 Whereas, the decision to phase out wrestling will have a detrimental impact on
2 many teams around the world, including the United States, whose wrestling medals
3 are only outnumbered by medals for swimming and track and field; and

4 Whereas, wrestling is also one of the most popular youth sports in the United
5 States, with nearly 275,000 competitors from 2010 to 2011; and

6 Whereas, Wisconsin has a rich tradition of wrestling excellence and has
7 produced many Olympic medalists; and

8 Whereas, wrestling is a diverse, popular, and historic sport, and it is fitting and
9 proper that the IOC keep wrestling in the Olympic Games after the 2016 Olympics
10 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; now, therefore, be it

11 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the
12 legislature strongly urge the International Olympic Committee to keep wrestling in
13 the Olympic Games after the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and, be it
14 further

15 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk is authorized and directed to transmit
16 a copy of this resolution to the executive board of the International Olympic
17 Committee.

18

(END)