State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2479/1
DJW:klm

2025 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 35

April 25, 2025 - Introduced by Senators RATCLIFF, PFAFF, ROYS, LARSON, WIRCH, DRAKE, HESSELBEIN, KEYESKI and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Representatives UDELL, JOHNSON, SINICKI, STUBBS, ROE, EMERSON, BROWN, PHELPS, O'CONNOR, ARNEY, SUBECK, BARE, J. JACOBSON, FITZGERALD, JOERS, DESMIDT and CLANCY. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: proclaiming May 16, 17, and 18, 2025, Syttende Mai Weekend.

Whereas, Norway, which means "Northern Way," is the sixth-largest country in Europe, covering 148,715 square miles, and has a population of more than 5 million people; and

Whereas, Norwegian immigrants have made countless contributions to the culture of Wisconsin and other regions of the United States; and

Whereas, one out of every 12 Wisconsinites claims Norwegian ancestry; and

Whereas, "Syttende Mai," Norwegian for "May 17," celebrates the anniversary of the 1814 signing of the Norwegian Constitution, which declared Norway's independence from Denmark; and

Whereas, the Norwegian Constitution is the third-oldest in the world, predated only by the constitutions of the United States and France; and

Whereas, Norwegian culture can be found throughout Wisconsin in the

cuisine of lutefisk and lefse, in the art of rosemaling, and in the presence of carved wooden trolls; and

Whereas, Wisconsin communities such as Westby, Stoughton, Blair, Mount Horeb, and Woodville will celebrate Syttende Mai in many ways, including parades, Norwegian displays, Norwegian street music and dancers, Syttende Mai King and Queen presentations, Syttende Mai runs, special museum tours, choral concerts, church services, and Norwegian drama; and

Whereas, thousands of Wisconsin residents of Norwegian heritage will participate in these activities during the month of May; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin Legislature proclaims the weekend of May 16, 17, and 18, 2025, Syttende Mai Weekend in the state of Wisconsin and declares that all residents of this state are honorary Norwegians for that weekend and urged to observe the Syttende Mai Weekend with appropriate celebrations.

(END)