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State of Misconsin 1997 - 1998 LEGISLATURE

April 1998 Special Session

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SENATE RESOLUTION 1

May 14, 1998 - Introduced by Committee on Senate Organization, by request of Senator Jauch. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: urging the Province of Ontario to rescind its decision to allow the 1 2 diversion and sale of water from Lake Superior. 3 Whereas, the Province of Ontario, Canada, has given permission to a company to remove and sell up to 158,500,000 gallons of water from Lake Superior for each 4 5 of the next 5 years; and 6 Whereas, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment took this action without 7 first consulting with the International Joint Commission, as required under the 8 provisions of the United States-Canada Boundary Waters Treaty; and 9 Whereas, this action may also be in violation of the Great Lakes Charter which 10 has been entered into by Wisconsin and all other states and Canadian provinces bordering the Great Lakes; and 11

Whereas, this action may undermine international cooperation and encourage

companies to undertake even larger water diversions from the Great Lakes; and

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Whereas, the waters of the Great Lakes are a precious natural resource that belong to all Canadian and American people and the environmental consequences of a diversion of this magnitude are unknown; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, That the members of the Wisconsin senate urge the Province of Ontario to rescind its decision to allow this diversion of water from Lake Superior and further to consult with the appropriate governmental bodies as required by international law and treaty prior to considering any other diversions; and, be it further

Resolved, That a duly attested copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted to the president of the United States, to each member of the congressional delegation from this state and to the premier of the Province of Ontario.

13 (END)