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## 1997 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 27

June 11, 1997 – Introduced by Senators Rude, C. Potter, Moen and Rosenzweig, cosponsored by Representatives Johnsrud, Meyer, R. Young, Kreibich, Freese, J. Lehman, Hanson, Bock, Plouff, Musser, Owens and Hasenohrl. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations.

**Relating to:** memorializing Congress to work toward an international ban on land mines.

Whereas, there are over 119,000,000 land mines scattered in 70 nations of the world, and this number increases dramatically every year, the result of which is the injury or death of 2,000 people a month; and

Whereas, these weapons continue to harm civilians and to prevent homes, land and communities from being free of danger and destruction and make it impossible for sustainable life to be resumed when war has ended; and

Whereas, numerous U.S. military leaders confirm that land mines pose a threat to U.S. troops abroad and confirm that anti-personnel land mines no longer are necessary weapons of war; and

Whereas, the United States declared a moratorium until 1999 on the export of anti-personnel land mines and in 1996 called, by means of President Clinton's address to the United Nations, for a universal ban on the transfer and use of anti-personnel land mines and for the protection of civilians by removing the land mines already laid in the ground; and

Whereas, the U.S. backing of the U.N. Conference on Disarmament is an uncertain and contradictory approach to the permanent elimination of the manufacture, sale and use of land mines and does not complement the more positive diplomatic approach of the Ottawa initiative, which has a high level of international support; and

Whereas, momentum is growing for a worldwide ban by the end of 1997, and the support of the Ottawa process by the United States would show significant leadership toward that goal; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature urge President Clinton and the Congress of the United States to work toward a universal ban of the production sale and use of land mines by supporting the diplomatic "Ottawa process" in order to achieve an international ban treaty in 1997; and, be it further

**Resolved, That** the senate chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint resolution to President Clinton and to each member of this state's congressional delegation.

(END)