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LRB-4498/1 CMH:wlj

2015 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 89

February 1, 2016 – Introduced by Senators Shilling, Miller, Hansen, Wirch, Olsen, Vinehout, Risser, C. Larson, Harris Dodd, Cowles, Lazich and Lassa, cosponsored by Representatives Nerison, Hebl, Kahl, Zamarripa, Milroy, Jorgensen, Petryk, Johnson, Danou, Ohnstad, Knudson, Horlacher, Berceau, Sinicki, Subeck, C. Taylor, Spreitzer and Genrich. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: proclaiming May 13, 14, and 15, 2016, Syttende Mai Weekend. 1 2 Whereas, Norway, which means "Northern Way," is the sixth-largest country 3 in Europe, covering 148,715 square miles, and has a population of more than 5 4 million people; 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 twelve Wisconsinites claims Norwegian ancestry; 8 and 9 Whereas, "Syttende Mai," Norwegian for "May 17," celebrates the anniversary 10 of the 1814 signing of the Norwegian Constitution that declared Norway's independence from Denmark; and 11 12 Whereas, the Norwegian Constitution is the third-oldest in the world, being

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 wood-carved trolls; and

Whereas, Wisconsin communities, such as Stoughton, Blair, Mt. Horeb, Westby, 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 13, 14, and 15, 2016, Syttende Mai Weekend in the state of Wisconsin, and declares that all residents of this state are honorary Norwegians for that weekend and are urged to observe the Syttende Mai Weekend with appropriate celebrations.

16 (END)