

## ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 99

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 20, 1996

By Assemblyman CORODEMUS

- 1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** requesting the President and the Secretary of  
2 State of the United States to express disapproval of Norway for its  
3 commercial whaling policies and for the raising of its quotas on minke  
4 whales.  
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- 6 **WHEREAS**, Whales have been recognized internationally since the 1960s as  
7 animals unnecessarily threatened with extinction because of the variety of  
8 alternative sources in modern time for the products and by-products  
9 derived from whales; and
- 10 **WHEREAS**, The International Whaling Commission voted in 1982 to impose  
11 a moratorium on all commercial whaling at the end of the 1984-85 season;  
12 and
- 13 **WHEREAS**, The principal whaling nations --- Japan, Norway and Russia (then  
14 the Soviet Union) --- did not agree to the moratorium until 1988, and in  
15 1992, Norway announced it would resume hunting minke whales because,  
16 in Norway's opinion, the species was no longer in danger of extinction; and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, The International Whaling Commission specifically banned  
18 commercial whaling of minke whales in 1993 because of the declining  
19 numbers of the species; and
- 20 **WHEREAS**, It has been reported by international news services that Norway  
21 has almost doubled its quota from 232 to 425 minke whales for the 1996  
22 season at a time when the total world population of minke whales is  
23 estimated at 110,000 to 120,000 whales; and
- 24 **WHEREAS**, Public opposition to this move has been made all the more  
25 apparent by published news reports that the head of resources  
26 management at the Ministry of Fisheries in Norway said no public  
27 announcement of this initiative would be made to avoid violence against  
28 whalers; and
- 29 **WHEREAS**, The United States has been in the forefront of the "Save the  
30 Whales" movement, by banning the importation of whale products in 1970  
31 and, later in 1972, by prohibiting all commercial hunting of whales in United  
32 States waters; now, therefore

1       **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

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3       1. The President and the Secretary of State of the United States are  
4 requested to express disapproval of Norway for its commercial whaling  
5 policies and for the raising of its quotas on minke whales.

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7       2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the President of  
8 the Senate and attested to by the Secretary thereof, shall be transmitted to the  
9 King and Prime Minister of Norway, the President, Vice President and the  
10 Secretary of State of the United States, the United States Ambassador to  
11 Norway, and the members of the Congress of the United States.

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STATEMENT

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16       This resolution requests the President and the Secretary of State of the  
17 United States to express disapproval of Norway for its commercial whaling  
18 policies and for the raising of its quotas on minke whales. Norway, in the face  
19 of an international ban on minke whale hunting, recently increased its minke  
20 whale quotas from 232 to 425 whales. It is estimated that the total world  
21 population of minke whales is 110,000 to 120,000 whales.

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26       \_\_\_\_\_  
27 Requests the President and the Secretary of State of the United States to  
28 express disapproval of Norway for its commercial whaling policies and for  
the raising of its quotas on minke whales.