



## 2007 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 31

March 12, 2007 - Introduced by Representative ALBERS. Referred to Committee on Elections and Constitutional Law.

1     **To create** section 3 (4) of article VII of the constitution; **relating to:** prohibiting  
2             requiring attorneys licensed to practice law in this state to become members of  
3             the State Bar of Wisconsin, and prohibiting requiring those attorneys to pay  
4             dues to any bar association (first consideration).

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Currently the supreme court by rule requires all practicing attorneys to belong to the State Bar of Wisconsin and to pay bar dues.

This proposed constitutional amendment, proposed to the 2007 legislature on first consideration, prohibits the supreme court from requiring those attorneys to become members of the State Bar of Wisconsin or to pay dues to any bar association.

A constitutional amendment requires adoption by two successive legislatures, and ratification by the people, before it can become effective.

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5             **Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That:**

6             **SECTION 1.** Section 3 (4) of article VII of the constitution is created to read:

7             [Article VII] Section 3 (4) The supreme court may assess attorneys licensed to  
8             practice law in this state for the cost of their regulation, but the court may not require

1 those attorneys to become members of the state bar of Wisconsin or pay dues to any  
2 bar association.

3 **SECTION 2. Numbering of new provision.** The new subsection (4) of section  
4 3 of article VII of the constitution created in this joint resolution shall be designated  
5 by the next higher open whole subsection number in that section in that article if,  
6 before the ratification by the people of the amendment proposed in this joint  
7 resolution, any other ratified amendment has created a subsection (4) of section 3 of  
8 article VII of the constitution of this state. If one or more joint resolutions create a  
9 subsection (4) of section 3 of article VII simultaneously with the ratification by the  
10 people of the amendment proposed in this joint resolution, the subsections created  
11 shall be numbered and placed in a sequence so that the subsections created by the  
12 joint resolution having the lowest enrolled joint resolution number have the numbers  
13 designated in that joint resolution and the subsections created by the other joint  
14 resolutions have numbers that are in the same ascending order as are the numbers  
15 of the enrolled joint resolutions creating the subsections.

16 ***Be it further resolved, That*** this proposed amendment be referred to the  
17 legislature to be chosen at the next general election and that it be published for 3  
18 months previous to the time of holding such election.

19 (END)