

2009 DRAFTING REQUEST

Senate Joint Resolution

Received: 04/14/2010

Received By: smiller

Wanted: As time permits

Companion to LRB:

For: Spencer Coggs (608) 266-2500

By/Representing: pam shannon

May Contact:

Drafter: smiller

Subject: Legislature - miscellaneous res.
Memorials - miscellaneous

Addl. Drafters:

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES

Requester's email: Sen.Coggs@legis.wisconsin.gov

Carbon copy (CC:) to: Pam.Shannon@legis.wisconsin.gov

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Russ Whitesel

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	smiller 04/14/2010	nmatzke 04/14/2010		_____			
/1			rschluet 04/14/2010	_____	mbarman 04/14/2010	cduerst 04/14/2010	
				_____	mbarman 04/14/2010		

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State of Wisconsin
2009 - 2010 LEGISLATURE

4689/1

~~LRB-4554/1~~
~~SRM:rwj/rs~~
↑ ↑
Stays

SENATE

2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

Now

in 4-14

1 **Relating to:** the retirement of Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney, Legislative
2 Council Staff, following a long and distinguished career in nonpartisan service
3 to the Wisconsin legislature.

4 Whereas, Russ Whitesel was born at Camp White near Medford, Oregon, grew
5 up in Iowa City, home to a Big Ten rival, and graduated from Northern Illinois
6 University; and

7 Whereas, Russ exemplified the idealistic spirit of the 1960s, serving as a Peace
8 Corps volunteer in Turkey, where he taught English to middle schoolers and
9 developed a budding interest in education; and

10 Whereas, upon earning a master's degree in public administration from
11 Syracuse University, Russ came to Wisconsin, working for two years in the capital
12 budget office in the Department of Administration, followed by two years in
13 then-Central Administration at the University of Wisconsin, where he shepherded
14 the capital project approvals necessary to establish the Green Bay and Parkside
15 campuses; and

1 Whereas, soon after moving to Madison, Russ met and married his wife Liz,
2 with whom he will celebrate 40 years of marriage this year; and

3 Whereas, sparked by the opportunities for public service, Russ enrolled in the
4 University of Wisconsin Law School, graduated in January 1975, and was
5 immediately hired at the Legislative Council by the legendary Bonnie Reese, in
6 whose formidable footsteps he followed as an education specialist; and

7 Whereas, Russ diligently staffed innumerable Legislative Council study
8 committees, crafting complex legislation in areas ranging from mediation and
9 arbitration law and consumer protection to school finance and trade secrets; and

10 Whereas, Russ provided sage legal and procedural advice to countless
11 legislative standing committees, focusing on K-12 and higher education, consumer
12 protection, labor, and elections; and

13 Whereas, Russ has been a vibrant and engaged member of the council staff for
14 over 35 years, cheerfully mentoring junior colleagues; sharing his considerable
15 institutional wisdom; organizing noon-hour book group discussions; expounding on
16 the intricacies of fantasy baseball; and regaling his co-workers (and anyone else who
17 would listen) with his twin parables of “The Floating Opera” and “Everything
18 Relates”; and

19 Whereas, Russ has served as the council’s goodwill ambassador, nurturing
20 relationships with legislators and staffers on both sides of the aisle; leading
21 pre-session orientation for new legislators; fostering good relations with the judicial
22 and executive branches; and hosting international delegations visiting the state
23 capitol; and

1 Whereas, Russ' commitment to public service has extended well beyond the
2 office, to his work for the State Bar of Wisconsin, as a member of the Public Records
3 Board, and on the capital campaign for Madison's Sequoia Branch Library; and

4 Whereas, Russ' compassion for his fellow human beings was exemplified when
5 he volunteered for duty as a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, traveling to New
6 Orleans for a month to assist with disaster relief efforts in the aftermath of
7 Hurricane Katrina; and

8 Whereas, Russ epitomizes what it means to be a good citizen of the community
9 and the world; and

10 Whereas, Russ' upbeat attitude, insider savvy, and willingness to assist will be
11 greatly missed by all who worked with him; now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the assembly the senate concurring, That* the members of the
13 Wisconsin legislature honor and commend Russ Whitesel for his 35 years of devoted
14 service to the Wisconsin legislature and wish him many fruitful, active, and
15 enjoyable years in retirement; and, be it further

16 *Resolved, That* the ~~assembly~~ ^{senate} chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint
17 resolution to Russ and his wife, Liz, and their daughters, Leah and Emily.

18

(END)

Duerst, Christina

From: Plotkin, Adam
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2010 2:31 PM
To: LRB.Legal
Subject: Draft Review: LRB 09-4689/1 Topic: Russ Whitesel

Please Jacket LRB 09-4689/1 for the SENATE.