

2007 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 30

March 12, 2007 – Introduced by Representatives ALBERS, OWENS, GUNDRUM, MUSSER and VOS, cosponsored by Senators GROTHMAN, SCHULTZ and A. LASEE. Referred to Committee on Elections and Constitutional Law.

1 **To create** section 3 (4) of article VII of the constitution; **relating to:** prohibiting
2 assessing indigent legal fees to attorneys licensed to practice law in this state
3 (first consideration).

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. A portion of the bar dues is used to provide legal services to the indigent.

This proposed constitutional amendment, proposed to the 2007 legislature on first consideration, prohibits the supreme court from assessing indigent legal fees to attorneys licensed to practice law in this state.

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

4 **Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That:**
5 **SECTION 1.** Section 3 (4) of article VII of the constitution is created to read:
6 [Article VII] Section 3 (4) The supreme court may assess attorneys licensed to
7 practice law in this state for the cost of their regulation, but the court may not assess
8 those attorneys to pay the cost of legal services for the indigent.

