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ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 2, TO 2009 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 14

March 23, 2010 – Offered by Special Committee on Ethics and Standards of Conduct.

1	Relating to: the reprimand of Jeffrey Wood, a representative from the 67th
2	Assembly District, in accordance with article IV, section 8, of the Wisconsin
3	Constitution and Assembly Rule 21.
4	Resolved by the assembly, That:
5	Whereas, article IV, section 8, of the Wisconsin Constitution provides that each
6	house may punish for contempt and disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence
7	of two-thirds of all the members elected, expel a member; and
8	Whereas, Assembly Rule 43 (3) provides that any resolution to reprimand,
9	censure, or expel a member of the assembly shall identify the charges against the
10	member cited and shall be referred to the committee on ethics and standards of
11	conduct for review; and
12	Whereas, the Wisconsin state assembly has adopted Assembly Rule 21,

providing for the appointment of a special committee on ethics and standards of

conduct to consider any resolution to reprimand, censure, or expel a member of the assembly for the purpose of holding one or more public hearings on the resolution and to make a recommendation for action on the resolution; and

Whereas, under Assembly Rule 21 (2), a duty of the special committee is to ascertain the facts of the controversy, which are summarized below; and

Whereas, Jeffrey Wood currently serves as the representative to the assembly from the 67th Assembly District for the term of the 2009–2010 legislative session; and

Whereas, on December 12, 2008, Representative Wood was arrested for operating while intoxicated in Columbia County, which could result in his third, fourth, or fifth offense under Wisconsin law; and

Whereas, law enforcement and eye witness accounts regarding Representative Wood's driving on December 12, 2008, indicate that his driving was erratic and dangerous; and

Whereas, Representative Wood was charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant (third offense), operating a motor vehicle with a prohibited alcohol concentration (PAC) (third offense), possession of tetrahydrocannabinols (THC), and possession of drug paraphernalia as a result of his arrest on December 12, 2008; and

Whereas, as a condition of release relating to the case resulting from his December 12, 2008, arrest, Representative Wood was ordered by the court to maintain absolute sobriety at all times; and

Whereas, on December 1, 2009, a motion to suppress evidence of THC and drug paraphernalia from Representative Wood's December 12, 2008, arrest was denied by the circuit court; and

1 Whereas, a plea hearing in the case resulting from Representative Wood's 2 December 12, 2008, arrest has been scheduled for April 19, 2010; and 3 Whereas, on September 23, 2009, Representative Wood was arrested for 4 operating while under the influence in Marathon County, which could result in his 5 third, fourth, or fifth offense under Wisconsin law; and 6 Whereas, law enforcement and eye witness accounts regarding Representative 7 Wood's driving on September 23, 2009, indicate that his driving was erratic and 8 dangerous; and 9 Whereas, Representative Wood was charged with operating while under the 10 influence of a controlled substance (third offense) and inattentive driving as a result 11 of his arrest on September 23, 2009; and 12 Whereas, as a condition of release relating to the case resulting from his 13 September 23, 2009, arrest, Representative Wood was ordered by the court to take 14 no controlled substances without a prescription and, if prescribed, to take controlled 15 substances only in doses as prescribed; and 16 Whereas, on October 21, 2009, Representative Wood was arrested for operating 17 a motor vehicle while impaired in Monroe County, which could result in his third, 18 fourth, or fifth offense under Wisconsin law; and 19 Whereas, law enforcement and eye witness accounts regarding Representative 20 Wood's driving on October 21, 2009, indicate that his driving was erratic and 21 dangerous; and 22 Whereas, Representative Wood was charged with operating while under the 23 influence of an intoxicant or other drug (third offense) and misdemeanor bail 24 jumping as a result of his arrest on October 21, 2009; and

Whereas, based on the facts of this controversy, the special committee on ethics and standards of conduct makes the following charges against Representative Wood: First, the conduct cited above by Representative Wood since his election to the

assembly for the 2009–2010 legislative term jeopardized his life and the lives of innocent citizens, does not reflect the norms of behavior expected of a member of the assembly and, therefore, has brought disrepute on the Wisconsin state assembly by damaging the institution's integrity with the public; and

Second, while it is recognized that addiction is a serious health problem, any attempts by Representative Wood to deal with his addiction were not successful in preventing the dangerous incidents cited in this resolution; and

Whereas, the special committee, following a public hearing on this resolution, is directed by Assembly Rule 21 (5) to make a recommendation for action on the resolution; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, That Representative Jeffrey Wood is hereby reprimanded by the Wisconsin state assembly, in accordance with article IV, section 8, of the Wisconsin Constitution and Assembly Rule 21.

17 (END)