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ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 5, TO 2009 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 14

April 20, 2010 - Offered by Representative Nass.

1 **Relating to:** the expulsion of Jeffrey Wood, a representative from the 67th Assembly 2 District, from membership in the Wisconsin state assembly. 3 Whereas, the Wisconsin Constitution, under article IV, section 8, envisions the 4 need of each house of the legislature to address "contempt and disorderly behavior" 5 of its membership by authorizing a process for expelling a member; and 6 Whereas, the Wisconsin state assembly has adopted Assembly Rule 21, 7 providing three options including expulsion for punishing members that have 8 conducted themselves in a manner not conforming to reasonable standards of ethics 9 or moral behavior; and 10 Whereas, Jeffrey Wood currently serves as the representative to the assembly 11 from the 67th Assembly District for the term of the 2009–2010 legislative session;

1 Whereas, on October 21, 2009, Representative Wood was arrested on the 2 suspicion of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence and bail jumping in 3 Monroe County, which could result in his fifth offense under Wisconsin law; and 4 Whereas, Representative Wood's dangerous conduct on October 21, 2009, was 5 reported by a citizen in the city of Tomah in Monroe County who witnessed his 6 impaired driving; and 7 Whereas, Representative Wood was arrested with 12 tablets of Amoxicillin in 8 an Augmentin prescription bottle, 22 capsules of Fluoxetine, 55 tablets of Naproxen, 9 and 13 additional tablets of Amoxicillin in its container on October 21, 2009; and 10 Whereas, on September 23, 2009, Representative Wood was arrested on the 11 suspicion of driving under the influence in Marathon County, which could result in 12 his fourth offense under Wisconsin law; and 13 Whereas, Representative Wood's dangerous conduct on September 23, 2009, 14 was reported by a citizen driving in Marathon County who witnessed his erratic 15 driving; and 16 Whereas, the Wisconsin state patrol reports finding a bottle of prescription 17 medication, Lorazepam, with only seven of the 45 pills remaining in a prescription 18 issued on September 22, 2009, and a partially consumed bottle of cough syrup; and 19 Whereas, Representative Wood told a Wisconsin state patrol trooper that he 20 had taken double the prescribed dosage of Lorazepam and two doses of cough syrup 21 on September 23, 2009; and 22 Whereas, on March 10, 2010, the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene 23 reported that a blood sample taken from Representative Wood on September 23, 24 2010, contained the following drugs: Lorazepam, Fluoxetine, Norfluoxetine, 25 Doxylamine, and Dextromethorphan; and

1 Whereas, the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene reported that the level of 2 Dextromethorphan was nearly nine times higher than the nonabusive therapeutic 3 range; and 4 Whereas, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has identified 5 Dextromethorphan, an ingredient in certain cold medicines, as a commonly abused 6 medication to generate euphoria and hallucinations (both visual and auditory), and 7 is also known as "the poor man's PCP" or "Robo-tripping," which is derived from the 8 product Robitussin; and 9 Whereas, on December 12, 2008, Representative Wood was arrested for driving 10 under the influence, possession of 4.9 grams of marijuana, and possession of drug 11 paraphernalia in Columbia County; and 12 Whereas, Representative Wood's dangerous conduct on December 12, 2008, 13 was reported by citizens who witnessed his erratic driving, which included smashing 14 through a highway sign, and he was found by a Wisconsin state patrol trooper 15 urinating alongside of the highway; and 16 Whereas, on April 19, 2010, Representative Jeffrey Wood pled no contest and 17 was found guilty in Columbia County Circuit Court of third offense operating under 18 the influence and possession of drug paraphernalia, both misdemeanors, for his 19 conduct on December 12, 2008; and 20 Whereas, on April 19, 2010, Columbia County Circuit Court Judge Daniel S. 21 George sentenced Representative Wood to 45 days in jail, revoked his driver's license 22 for 27 months, and ordered him to use an ignition interlock device for two years; and 23 Whereas, Representative Wood fully admitted his conduct of December 12, 24 2008, during a radio interview; and

1	Whereas, on February 4, 2009, Representative Wood was ordered to maintain
2	absolute sobriety as a condition of his bond for the December 12, 2008, arrest; and
3	Whereas, Representative Wood had two previous convictions for drunk driving
4	in 1990 and 1991; and
5	Whereas, Representative Wood has been involved in three other instances of
6	disorderly behavior as a result of his use of drugs and alcohol, the most serious
7	occurring in 1989 when he was accused of having sex with an underage minor whom
8	he met at a party, for which he eventually plead guilty to a lesser misdemeanor and
9	served one year on probation; and
10	Whereas, after his arrest on September 23, 2009, Representative Wood issued
11	a statement saying that he has had a lifelong battle with abusing alcohol and drugs;
12	and
13	Whereas, the people of Wisconsin have petitioned their elected state officials to
14	aggressively respond to the ongoing carnage of death and destruction wrought by
15	repeat drunk and drugged drivers; and
16	Whereas, on September 17, 2009, the Wisconsin assembly passed 2009
17	Assembly Bill 283, by a vote of 95 to 0, which makes numerous changes to toughen
18	Wisconsin law on drunk and drugged driving, including making certain fourth
19	offenses a felony; and
20	Whereas, Representative Wood voted "aye" on passage of 2009 Assembly Bill
21	283; and
22	Whereas, repeated disorderly behavior by Representative Wood, both before
23	and during public service, has brought disrepute on the Wisconsin state assembly
24	and severely damaged the institution's integrity with the public; and

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Whereas, continued service by Representative Wood is no longer compatible with his oath of office and the reasonable social norms of expected behavior for a member of the assembly, as he continues to deal with his personal conduct issues that frequently lead to dangerous behaviors that jeopardize his life and the life of innocent citizens; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, That Representative Jeffrey Wood is hereby expelled from membership in the Wisconsin state assembly based on his repeated dangerous conduct resulting in his arrests and convictions enumerated in this resolution.

10 (END)