March 5, 2015 – Introduced by Representatives BARCA, SHANKLAND, JORGENSEN, ZAMARRIPA and SARGENT. Referred to Committee on Assembly Organization.

Relating to: recognizing, and apologizing to, the members of Wisconsin’s public sector who came to protest Act 10.

Whereas, the Wisconsin state assembly wants to recognize, and apologize, to the members of Wisconsin’s public sector who came to protest Act 10. We recognize that these citizens should never be brought up when there is a reference to radical Islamic terrorists; and

Whereas, police, fire, and rescue, and first responders are our first line of defense against threats to our homes and persons. Teachers and nurses help keep our minds and bodies healthy; and

Whereas, all dedicated public workers, whether they plow our roads or maintain our property records, or perform any other needed service, serve us effectively and contribute to the quality of life for our citizens; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin state assembly thanks you, the public workers, for your service to your state and your fellow citizens. We know that you have worked hard during great economic downturn to ensure that our citizens continue to receive
great service, despite our state having fewer and fewer resources. We, like all Wisconsinites, are grateful for your professionalism and commitment to public service; and

Whereas, our state faces some very serious and undeniable financial challenges. Many of you are aware of the immediate challenges facing our state. In the current fiscal year which ends on June 30, 2015, we face a budget deficit of $136.7 million. Looking to the future, our challenges are even greater. Over the next two years, the state of Wisconsin faces a biennial budget deficit of roughly $2 billion; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, That: Wisconsin’s state employees are second to none in our nation. Our citizens expect great service, and you have delivered. The state assembly knows you will continue to deliver top-notch programs for Wisconsin’s taxpayers. The state assembly thanks you again for your service to our state, and with deep hearts the state assembly apologizes for Governor Walker’s insensitive comments.

(END)