## State of Wisconsin



## GARY R. GEORGE SENATOR

TO:

Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs

FROM:

Dan Rossmiller, Clerk

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs

RE:

Senator Darling's Testimony Relating to Senate Bill 29

(SB 29 was heard on April 20<sup>th</sup>)

DATE:

April 27, 1999

Attached please find copies of written testimony received by the committee from Senator Darling regarding Senate Bill 29. Senate Bill 29 relates to fleeing to this state to avoid prosecution for a serious sex offense in another jurisdiction, committing a serious sex offense in this state after fleeing prosecution in another jurisdiction and providing penalties.

Attached also please find a copy of the executive session notice which indicates that Senate Bill 29 will be a topic of discussion. The executive session is scheduled for Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at noon in Room 201 S.E.

Attached also please find a copy of written comments provided to the committee by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection regarding Clearinghouse Rule 98-117, relating to home solicitation selling. The committee will hear testimony from the Department concerning this rule at Friday's executive session.

<u>Note</u>: We are still receiving written testimony/materials on SB 107 by mail and by fax. As indicated earlier, I will copy and send those in a separate packet.

I will also send materials on SB 63 in a separate packet to those members who were not present for that portion of the hearing.

Senate Judiciary Committee Senate Bill 29 April 20, 1999

Senator George, Committee Members, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of Senate Bill 29. Senate Bill 29 relates to fleeing to this state to avoid prosecution for a serious sex offense.

Many states have taken Wisconsin's lead and are developing and strengthening their serious sex offense laws. As a result, many states have found that the incarceration, and worse, the supervised release of these offenders is expensive and riddled with many obstacles.

The offenders have realized that states would prefer not to have to prosecute and incarcerate these individuals. As a result, many offenders are fleeing to other states in hopes that the state where they originally committed the offense will not move to extradite them for prosecution. Unfortunately, it would appear that their assumption is correct.

Senate Bill 29 would make it illegal to flee to Wisconsin to avoid the prosecution of a serious sex offense in another state. In addition, my proposal would provide for an enhanced penalty of up to 2 years in prison if the person commits a sex crime in Wisconsin.

This proposal sends a clear message to any sex offender that coming to Wisconsin to avoid paying for your crimes is unacceptable, and will be punished.

I urge you to recommend consideration of Senate Bill 29 to the full Senate and thank you for your consideration.

If you have any questions regarding this legislation I would be happy to discuss them with you.

ALBERTA DARLING
State Senator

Submitted: April 20, 1999