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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on Judiciary, Corrections and
Privacy...**

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

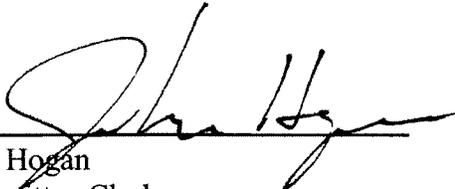
- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

Moved by Senator Roessler, seconded by Senator Zien that **Senate Bill 629** be recommended for passage.

Ayes: (4) Senators Zien, Roessler, Grothman and Taylor.

Noes: (1) Senator Risser.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 4, Noes 1



John Hogan
Committee Clerk





Mary Lazich

Wisconsin State Senator

Senate District 28

**Senate Committee on Judiciary, Corrections and Privacy
Testimony Senate Bill 629
March 1, 2006**

Good Morning Committee Chair Zien and committee members. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Corrections and Privacy on Senate Bill 629.

Senate Bill 629 would take our most serious sex offenders, the worst of the worst; those convicted of first degree sexual assault of a child, and lock them up for life. We have all read and seen the horror stories of sexually violent persons preying upon young, innocent children. The shocking news stories all have the same horrible theme: young children are kidnapped, molested, even killed by convicted, registered sex offenders. The offenders had served their time, only to be released back into society where they became proverbial time bombs, ready to strike again.

Sexually violent persons simply cannot be trusted. They are untreatable and extremely dangerous, and should never be allowed to return to society to repeat their disgusting crimes. I urge support for Senate Bill 629 that imposes life imprisonment for those convicted of first degree sexual assault of a child.

Last session, I introduced a bill that would lock up sex offenders for life. Unfortunately, the bill had such a large fiscal note that I could not build support for the bill. After working for several years on this bill, I have designed a way to lock up the sexually violent persons for life and keep the fiscal note down. By defining the crime as first degree sexual assault of a child resulting in great bodily harm, I



Testimony for SB 629

March 1, 2006

Page Two

capture the sexually violent persons that are the 980 offenders. As you may know, the Chapter 980 offenders, upon completion of their prison terms are transferred to Sand Ridge. The annual cost for housing an inmate in the Department of Corrections is \$26,200. The cost for a sexually violent person at Sand Ridge is much higher at \$116,600. In addition there is the Department of Health and Family Services cost for housing Chapter 980 sexually violent persons that exit Sand Ridge, driving the cost up even higher. By targeting the Chapter 980 offenders, I have designed a way to lock sexually violent persons up for life and save significant money.

Life in prison is a just, reasonable, and appropriate penalty for criminals that commit these heinous sex crimes. The evidence is overwhelming that violent sex predators have numerous victims before they are caught. Experts agree that pedophiles will re-offend once released. They are incurable. Serving time will not rehabilitate predators; however, taking them off the streets and incarcerating them for life will prevent predators from stealing the innocence and the lives of other children. Children are precious. I believe it is time to tip the scales of justice in their favor. Please support Senate Bill 629 and lock up violent sex predators for life.