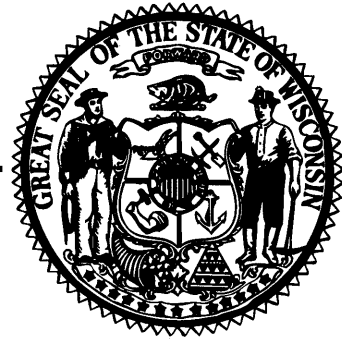


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**FRED A. RISSER**  
President  
Wisconsin State Senate

February 29, 2000

Senator Robert Wirch  
Chair, Senate Committee on Economic Development,  
Housing and Government Operations  
310 South, State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702  
HAND DELIVERED

Dear Senator Wirch,

I am writing to urge the Senate Committee on Economic Development, housing and Government Operations to hold a public hearing on Senate Bill 392. This bill will require that, in addition to considering fuel economy when purchasing fleet vehicles, the Department of Administration (DOA) must consider the safety ratings of these automobiles.

Under current law, there is no requirement that the safety rating of automobiles be considered when purchasing fleet vehicles. Current evaluation standards only require that DOA consider the fuel economy of vehicles purchased for use by state employees.

The state purchases vehicles that will be driven in all weather conditions, in all road conditions, and primarily at high speeds. These vehicles are driven thousands of miles per year by state employees, primarily on state and interstate highways. It is important that the state considers the safety ratings of the automobiles that it provides for its employees, as well as fuel economy.

Thank you for your consideration of my request. If you should have any questions about Senate Bill 392, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Most Sincerely,

  
FRED A. RISSER  
President  
Wisconsin State Senate

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