

Senator Decker
State Capitol, 323 South



BRIAN BURKE

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Senate Committee on Finance

From: Senator Brian Burke

Date: October 10, 2001

Re: Enclosed Mail Ballot

Enclosed please find a mail ballot regarding Senate Bill 157. Please make your recommendation on the attached motion and return your completed ballot to my office by 4 p.m., tomorrow, October 11, 2001.

Fee free to contact me if you have any questions.

BBB/jes

Senate Committee on Finance
Mail Ballot
October 10, 2001

Moved by Senator Burke, seconded by Senator Decker, that Senate Bill 157 be recommended for passage.

YES

NO

Signature

Russ Decker

Senate Committee on Finance
Mail Ballot
October 10, 2001

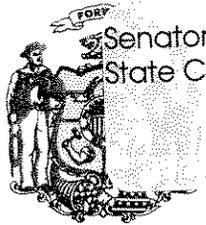
Moved by Senator Burke, seconded by Senator Decker, that Senate Bill
157 be recommended for passage.

YES

NO

Signature

Robert W. Wirth



Senator Moore
State Capitol, 409 South

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BBB/jes

*Mental
health*

Senate Committee on Finance
Mail Ballot
October 10, 2001

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157 be recommended for passage.

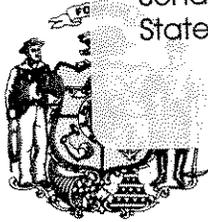
YES

NO

Signature

Dorothy M. Moore

Senator Shibilski
State Capitol, 10 South



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Senate Committee on Finance
Mail Ballot
October 10, 2001

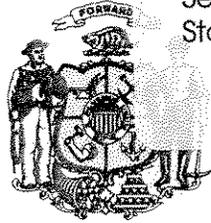
Moved by Senator Burke, seconded by Senator Decker, that Senate Bill
157 be recommended for passage.

YES _____

NO _____

Signature _____

Kim Gubel



Senator Plache
State Capitol, 415 South

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WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

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Senate Committee on Finance
Mail Ballot
October 10, 2001

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157 be recommended for passage.

YES

NO

Signature

Kim Plache



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October 10, 2001

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YES _____

NO _____

Signature Albert



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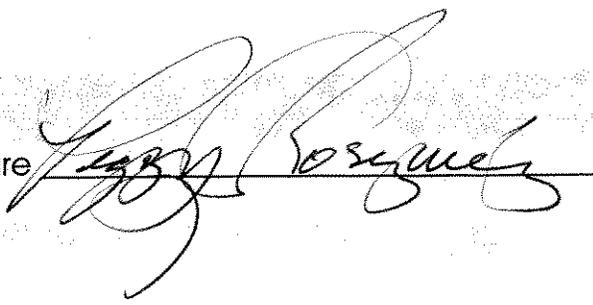
Senate Committee on Finance
Mail Ballot
October 10, 2001

Moved by Senator Burke, seconded by Senator Decker, that Senate Bill 157 be recommended for passage.

YES _____

NO X

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry Rosquist", is written over a horizontal line.



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

October 11, 2001

HAND DELIVERED

Senator Brian Burke
Co-chair, Joint Committee on Finance
Room 317 East – State Capitol
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Sen. Burke:

We write once again to vigorously express our disapproval for yet another Senate Finance paper ballot. As we mentioned in our letter to you yesterday, circumventing the storied Joint Committee on Finance assaults Wisconsin's progressive history. Your decision to avoid the tough debate that comes with Joint Finance continues to disappoint us, and we urge you to stop this practice.

The bill at issue in your latest ballot, Senate Bill 157, magnifies our displeasure. Seizing a bipartisan measure such as the Mental Health Parity bill and forcing it through by such partisan methods immediately transforms the bill into a political hot potato. In fact, your decision to play politics with SB 157 plays right into the hands of those opposing the bill. It empowers these opponents to add procedural arguments to their substantive claims.

Many of us in the Senate – particularly the undersigned and Senator Mary Panzer – have worked for many years on mental health parity. We just recently met with advocacy groups on the bill, stressing that politicizing the issue threatens its passage. We can't help but think that if the measure fails, your action will prove a decisive factor.

Along with the honor of serving on Joint Finance comes a responsibility to engage in difficult debate. Avoiding that work abdicates that responsibility. We once again respectfully request you reconsider utilizing the Senate Finance committee.

Sincerely,

PEGGY ROSENZWEIG
5th Senate District

Member, Joint Committee on Finance

ALBERTA DARLING
8th Senate District

Member, Joint Committee on Finance