

**2005 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Assembly Amendment (AA-AB79)**

Received: 04/03/2005

Received By: mshovers

Wanted: As time permits

Identical to LRB:

For: Terry Musser (608) 266-7461

By/Representing: Don Dyke

This file may be shown to any legislator: NO

Drafter: mshovers

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters:

Subject: Local Gov't - counties  
Local Gov't - misc

Extra Copies: Don Dyke, Leg. Council

Submit via email: YES

Requester's email: Rep.Musser@legis.state.wi.us

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

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**Pre Topic:**

No specific pre topic given

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**Topic:**

A city or village may abolish its police department and contract with a county sheriff

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**Instructions:**

Specify that the topic of 911 calls will discussed during negotiations on a contract to provide law enforcement services

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**Drafting History:**

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
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FE Sent For:

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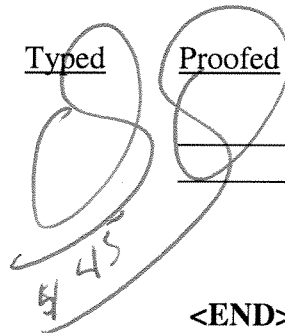
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FE Sent For:

Handwritten signature and initials, including the number 45.

<END>

**WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION**

March 22, 2005

The Honorable Daniel R. LeMahieu, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs  
Room 17 North  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952

RE: Statement to be Distributed to Committee Members  
for the March 22, 2005 Hearing on Assembly Bill 79

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

As the state's largest law enforcement organization, the Wisconsin Professional Police Association is frequently asked to provide input on state and federal law enforcement issues, and we appreciate the opportunity to offer our views relative to Assembly Bill 79. The WPPA began serving the needs of Wisconsin's law enforcement community in 1932, and now represents over 10,000 active and retired members from over 375 locals statewide. With over 70 years of service to law enforcement personnel, the WPPA is recognized as a leading law enforcement association in Wisconsin, with members currently serving on the executive board of the National Association of Police Organizations.

Assembly Bill 79 specifically authorizes a city or village to abolish its police department if it enters into a contract with a county for the sheriff to provide law enforcement services in all parts of the city or village. Given the fiscal pressures facing Wisconsin, the WPPA recognizes that municipalities should be able to explore ways in which local government services can be provided more efficiently. The ultimate objective of such efforts, however, should be to ensure that residents will continue to receive the same level and quality of services. Legislation that does not adequately address this objective creates a counterproductive and ill-conceived public policy fraught with unintended consequences.

AB 79 creates s. 61.65(1)(a)4, providing in part that "if a city or village is in more than one county, the city or village must enter into a contract with the county in which the greatest amount of the city's, or village's, equalized value, population or territory is

located." This provision raises some serious questions which the WPPA hopes can be addressed through amending language. With respect to cities or villages in more than one county, the WPPA makes the following specific observations:

*No for  
Rev. Mussoy -  
copies →  
DONOYER*

1. **Can the jurisdiction of a county sheriff's deputy acting under the authority of a contract made under AB 79 be challenged when made in another county?** The WPPA has posed this question to a number of local officials, organizations, and municipalities, who have all been unable to provide an answer of sufficient clarity. At present, AB 79's silence on this issue creates the potential for the jurisdiction of an arrest to be questioned.
2. **When the residents of a city or village in more than one county call 911, will their calls be received in a uniform manner?** In its current form, AB 79 does not guarantee that the residents of a city or village in more than one county will receive the same response time to emergency calls. As such, AB 79 creates a potential disparity in this regard, a fact which should be addressed for residents paying the same municipal-purpose tax rates.

*P.S. -  
soft  
language*

The WPPA has expressed a willingness to work with the parties interested in AB 79's passage, and will continue to strive towards improving AB 79 in a way that does not detrimentally impact the legislation's intent. That said, the WPPA opposes AB 79 in its current form.

Thank you again for the opportunity to address this Committee.

Respectfully,



James L. Palmer, II  
Legislative Lobbyist

