



Alberta Darling

Wisconsin State Senator | District 8

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY
Senate Bill 928
Senator Alberta Darling
February 17, 2022**

Thank you Senator Wangaard and committee members for hearing Senate Bill 928.

Wisconsin has been the site for several high-profile court trials and is likely to be home for several more. As we have witnessed from previous trials, emotions can run high.

Recently, threats were made against jurors during the Kyle Rittenhouse trial in Kenosha. Thankfully, nothing came from those threats. However, attempts were made to influence the outcome of that case.

State law isn't as clear as it should be regarding threats made to injure a juror or their family. Current law only applies once a verdict or indictment is reached, and the juror is harmed because of that decision.

Senate Bill 928 will protect jurors and their families while they are still convened and deliberating during a trial. It is based on a bill Senator Darling authored several years ago and we are glad to be working on this bill with the Committee chair who was pursuing better protections for jurors during a trial

Our bill aims to correct this and make sure everyone in Wisconsin can have a fair and just trial and make sure jurors are making their decisions based on the facts presented and not based on fear of their safety or the safety of their loved ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.