



January 19, 2017

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills)

1-608-266-5830

Bi-Partisan Bill Takes Aim at Milwaukee Gun Crimes

MADISON - Last year, 154 people were murdered in Milwaukee. According to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 81% were shot. The paper also reported 60% of the time no arrest was made.

Senators Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) and LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee) and Representatives Joe Sanfelippo (R-New Berlin) and David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) are introducing a bi-partisan bill to help curb gun crimes in the city. Darling says the bill will help take guns out of the hands of criminals who aren't allowed to have them in the first place.

"This bill gives prosecutors more opportunities to take criminals off the street," Darling said, "We've worked together with local officials for months to find a bipartisan solution that will make Milwaukee safer."

Senator Darling's bill will:

- Prohibit an individual from possessing a firearm if they have been convicted of a misdemeanor on three separate occasions within five years. The criminal penalty would be a Class G felony. (fines up to \$25,000, up to 10 years in prison or both)
- Prohibit an individual from buying a firearm intending to give it to a person who is banned from possessing a firearm. The criminal penalty would be a Class G felony.
- Prohibit an individual from giving or possessing a firearm for someone who is banned from possessing a firearm. The criminal penalty would be a Class G felony.
- Add a question to the state notification form about straw purchasers. Lying about being a straw purchaser on the state form would be a Class H felony. (fines up to \$10,000, imprisonment up to 6 years or both)

The lawmakers are currently seeking co-sponsors for the legislation.

Senator Darling represents portions of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha Counties.

###