



# Milwaukee County

June 13, 2011

Senator Alberta Darling  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Darling,

Milwaukee County has adopted the attached resolution in regard to the concealed carry legislation pending before the Wisconsin State Legislature. With this resolution, Milwaukee County requests that:

*"If the Legislature passes legislation legalizing concealed carry, it is imperative that the State grant Milwaukee County, as a local government, the unfettered authority to regulate its own facilities (including buildings, land, vehicles, and parking lots) for security purposes."*

Accordingly, the Senate and the Assembly have been asked to amend the concealed carry proposal to provide specific statutory authority prohibiting the carrying of concealed weapons within outdoor premises, including 15,000 acres of parks and parkways in Milwaukee County.

As Chairman of the Milwaukee County Board Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment and the Director of the Milwaukee County Parks, we write with specific concern about an apparent loophole in Senate Substitute Amendment 2 to Senate Bill 93 adopted by the Joint Committee on Finance. It has been brought to our attention that legislators have amended the original proposal to specify that individuals taking concealed weapons into a bar would be prohibited from drinking alcohol on the premises but this carrying and consumption restriction would not apply within parks owned by local governments. Allowing the consumption of alcohol and the carrying of concealed weapons in the densely populated Milwaukee County urban park system is a recipe for disaster. Beer and concealed weapons simply should not mix with family picnics and babies.

On a hot day, Milwaukee County parks along Lincoln Memorial Drive are crowded with thousands of people, young and old, seeking refuge from the heat by enjoying the oasis along the lakefront. It is the duty of elected and sworn officials to protect those who congregate on public land. It is unclear how Milwaukee County, as a local government, would manage the enhanced security risk of a law that seeks to permit the carrying of concealed weapons into parks.

It makes no sense to pass a bill that would allow someone to carry a concealed weapon near an area where young kids swim or teenagers play pick-up basketball. Further, anyone who has ever played golf knows that concealed weapons do not belong on the course. Therefore, your assistance is requested in forwarding and adopting an amendment that would grant local elected officials the specific statutory authority to restrict the carrying of concealed weapons into the Milwaukee County parks system. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Gerry Broderick  
Chairman,  
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors,  
Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment

Sue Black  
Director,  
Milwaukee County Parks, Recreation & Culture