

☞ **09hr\_ab0070\_AC-CJ\_pt01**



Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

## WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

### 2009-10

(session year)

### Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

### Committee on ... Criminal Justice (AC-CJ)

#### COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

#### INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)  
(**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)  
(**sb** = Senate Bill)                              (**sr** = Senate Resolution)                              (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**



Present: (10) Representatives Turner, Staskunas, Hraychuck, Soletski, Pasch, Kleefisch, Friske, Kramer, Brooks, Ripp.

Absent: (1) Representative Kessler.

Moved by Representative Kleefisch, seconded by Representative Hraychuck that **Assembly Substitute Amendment 1** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (10) Representatives Turner, Staskunas, Hraychuck, Soletski, Pasch, Kleefisch, Friske, Kramer, Brooks, Ripp.

Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (1) Representative Kessler.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1 ADOPTION  
RECOMMENDED, Ayes 10, Noes 0

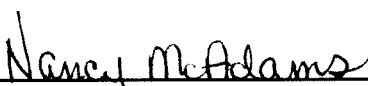
Moved by Representative Hraychuck, seconded by Representative Kleefisch that **Assembly Bill 70** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (10) Representatives Turner, Staskunas, Hraychuck, Soletski, Pasch, Kleefisch, Friske, Kramer, Brooks, Ripp.

Noes: (0) None.

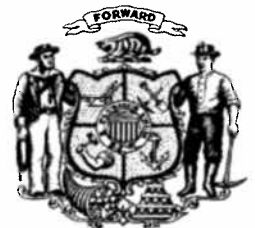
Absent: (1) Representative Kessler.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 10, Noes 0

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy McAdams  
Committee Clerk



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## Vote Record Committee on Criminal Justice

Date: 2-4-10

Moved by: Rep. Kleefisch

Seconded by: Rep. Hraychuck

AB 70 SB \_\_\_\_\_ Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR \_\_\_\_\_ SJR \_\_\_\_\_ Appointment \_\_\_\_\_  
 AR \_\_\_\_\_ SR \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Sub Amdt 1

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

Be recommended for:

- Passage     Adoption     Confirmation     Concurrence     Indefinite Postponement  
 Introduction     Rejection     Tabling     Nonconcurrence

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
<b>Representative Robert Turner, Chair</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Frederick Kessler</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Anthony Staskunas</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Ann Hraychuck</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative James Soletski</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Sandy Pasch</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Joel Kleefisch</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Donald Friske</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Bill Kramer</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Edward Brooks</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Keith Ripp</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Totals: 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 1

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

## Vote Record Committee on Criminal Justice

Date: 2-4-10  
 Moved by: Rep. ~~S~~ Hraychuck      Seconded by: Rep. Kleefisch

AB 70                      SB \_\_\_\_\_                      Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR \_\_\_\_\_                      SJR \_\_\_\_\_                      Appointment \_\_\_\_\_  
 AR \_\_\_\_\_                      SR \_\_\_\_\_                      Other \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
(A/S Sub Amdt) \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

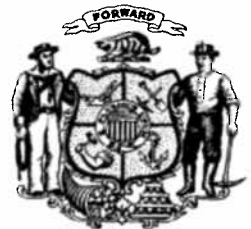
- Be recommended for:
- Passage       Adoption       Confirmation       Concurrence       Indefinite Postponement
  - Introduction       Rejection       Tabling       Nonconcurrency

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
<b>Representative Robert Turner, Chair</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Frederick Kessler</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Anthony Staskunas</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Ann Hraychuck</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative James Soletski</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Sandy Pasch</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Joel Kleefisch</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Donald Friske</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Bill Kramer</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Edward Brooks</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Representative Keith Ripp</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Totals:</b>	<u>10</u>	_____	_____	<u>1</u>

Motion Carried                       Motion Failed



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**SCOTT GELZER & PATRICIA WYZBINSKI  
1685 NORTH MARSHALL STREET  
MILWAUKEE WI 53202**

March 3, 2009

Representative Jon Richards  
WI House of Representatives  
State Capitol P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Jon:

We are writing in support of your efforts, along with Representative Scott Gunderson and others, to pass Assembly Bill 70. We write as eleven-year residents of Milwaukee, as people who work to improve the community, but also as parents. If this letter is in any way helpful to explain the importance of this legislation, please use it.

Early in the morning on April 16, 2008 our son chose to end his life. We will never stop asking questions of ourselves. Forever 24, Brandon S. Wyzbinski Gelzer was a bright, outgoing carpenter and entrepreneur who loved music, travel, and family. Over 150 people celebrated his life on what would have been his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, May 9, 2008.

In October 2007 after a series of incidents, we made one of the most difficult decisions of our lives. We called a mobile crisis team to our home and after we were unable to convince Brandon to voluntarily seek hospitalization, he was committed against his will. After a court verified the initial decision, he spent a week at Aurora Psychiatric Hospital. He was released and pursued a variety of treatments on an outpatient basis.

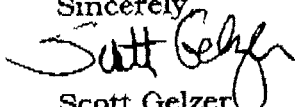
After a brief period of relative stability, his mental health deteriorated in early 2008. To our astonishment, he was able to easily purchase several handguns from a Milwaukee gun retailer.

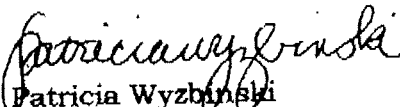
We write to you and the other standard bearers for AB70 (and SB44) and ask that you take action to help close the loophole that allowed a person such as our son, a danger to himself, to so easily purchase a firearm. We understand that reasonable people argue about firearm registration, regulation, and the Second Amendment. In contrast to this larger debate, AB70 is common-sense legislation that will restrict a group of people, formally judged to be a danger to themselves or others, in their ability to legally purchase a lethal means of ending life. It will also prevent sales to out-of-state purchasers who would not be flagged by an in-state background check.

Important matters involving Pat's mother's estate in MI prevent our attendance at the March 5<sup>th</sup> hearing. We will attend any future event, briefing, discussion or other forum that you, Representative Gunderson, Representative Turner or Senate sponsors request.

Perhaps, through your actions and those of your colleagues, a small bit of good can come from our son's death.

Sincerely,

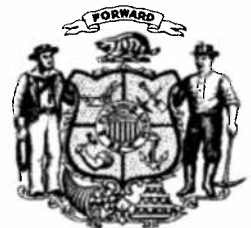
  
Scott Gelzer

  
Patricia Wyzbinski





# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**George, Lorna**

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**From:** Reed D. Gelzer [r.gelzer@snet.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 04, 2009 8:07 AM  
**To:** Rep.Turner  
**Subject:** House Committee on Criminal Justice hearing on AB70, SB44 on handgun background check standardization

Dear Representative Turner,

I am sorry that I cannot be there tomorrow for the hearings you'll lead since, in just a few short weeks it will be a year since my nephew, a Wisconsin resident, shot himself with a gun he should not have been able to buy. Many things over many years led to a moment when despair led him to make an irrevocable choice. What if, as in most states, he could not have had a handgun at that moment of despair? Might some revocable decision have been made instead, with loved ones close by who could have intervened even just a few more minutes? There is no way to tell.

What is most worrisome is that he had been involuntarily committed to a Wisconsin psychiatric hospital just months before he bought that gun. What of those who are today similarly deemed incapable of making even the most basic decisions for themselves, but instead of being self-destructive are instead intent on killing someone else? That same person in Wisconsin could get a gun and kill one, two, or many.

We will always bear the pain of wondering "what if" for Brandon. I am hopeful that perhaps no future family will have to wonder "what if" Wisconsin law didn't permit mentally disturbed to buy a gun. It is a horror for us with my nephew, my brother's son's suicide. More so if the buyer was one whose despair flamed outward.

On behalf of Brandon's parents, Scott Gelzer and Patricia Wyzbinski of Milwaukee, please assure a fair and vigorous hearing, which I believe will lead to passage of this legislation aligning Wisconsin with the vast majority of states.

Thank you,

RDGelzer

Reed D. Gelzer, MD, MPH, CHCC

Data Quality and EHR Integrity Consulting

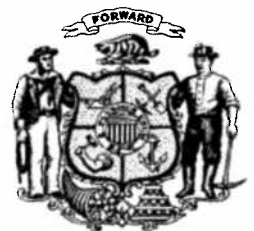
Advocates for Documentation Integrity and Compliance

Wallingford, CT and Boston, MA

203-506-5361



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**George, Lorna**

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**From:** Scott Gelzer [segelzer@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 04, 2009 8:31 PM  
**To:** George, Lorna  
**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

Yes, that would be acceptable. I also left a voicemail to this effect at the Representative's office.

Scott Gelzer

---

**Subject:** Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner  
**Date:** Wed, 4 Mar 2009 10:55:30 -0600  
**From:** Lorna.George@legis.wisconsin.gov  
**To:** r.gelzer@snet.net; segelzer@hotmail.com  
**CC:** Nancy.McAdams@legis.wisconsin.gov

3/4/09

Gentlemen,

Representative Turner has asked that I check to see if you would allow him to share your e-mail messages with Criminal Justice Committee members at the Public Hearing regarding AB70 tomorrow. Please let me know if this would be acceptable to you since you cannot attend the hearing.

Sincerely,

Lorna J. George

Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner

Room 223 North, State Capitol

P.O. Box 8953

Madison, WI 53708

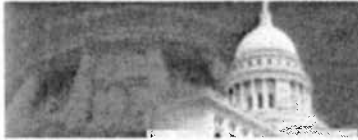
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061

Fax: 608-282-3661

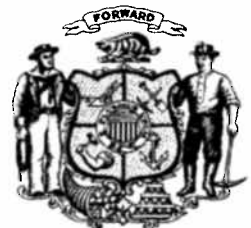
lorna.george@legis.wi.gov

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Windows Live™ Contacts: Organize your contact list. [Check it out.](#)



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**George, Lorna**

---

**From:** cass7dog-politics@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 04, 2009 9:40 PM  
**To:** Rep.Turner  
**Subject:** Support AB70

Dear Representative Turner -

I understand that you will be chairing a public hearing tomorrow on AB70. As I will not be able to attend the meeting, I want to express my strong support for this bill.

Colleagues of mine here in Milwaukee, Scott Gelzer and Pat Wzybinski, lost their son Brandon last year to a tragic suicide. Despite his history of involuntary commitment for mental health problems, Brandon was able to legally purchase a handgun and use it to end his life.

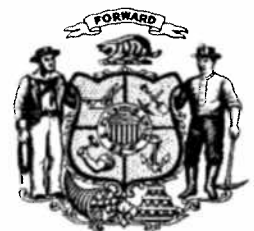
It is crucial to close the loophole that allowed this tragedy to occur. Please support AB70, expanding gun purchase background checks to identify people who are ineligible to purchase firearms under state and federal laws.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue,

Lisa Larson  
Shorewood, WI



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## George, Lorna

---

**From:** George, Lorna  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 04, 2009 10:56 AM  
**To:** 'r.gelzer@snet.net'; 'Scott Gelzer'  
**Cc:** McAdams, Nancy  
**Subject:** Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

3/4/09

Gentlemen,

Representative Turner has asked that I check to see if you would allow him to share your e-mail messages with Criminal Justice Committee members at the Public Hearing regarding AB70 tomorrow. Please let me know if this would be acceptable to you since you cannot attend the hearing.

Sincerely,

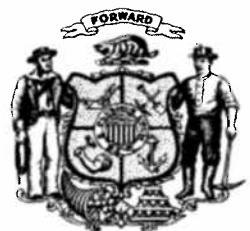
*Lorna J. George*

Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner  
Room 223 North, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061  
Fax: 608-282-3661  
[lorna.george@legis.wi.gov](mailto:lorna.george@legis.wi.gov)





# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Send Executive Notice to Scott

3/5 Called Scott-N.

George, Lorna

**From:** Scott Gelzer [segelzer@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2009 2:10 PM  
**To:** George, Lorna  
**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

AB 70 Folder

I'd be interested in learning how today's hearing went....should I give you a call?

Scott Gelzer  
414/839-9760

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**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner  
**Date:** Thu, 5 Mar 2009 08:38:11 -0600  
**From:** Lorna.George@legis.wisconsin.gov  
**To:** segelzer@hotmail.com

Mr. Gelzer,

Thank you. We did receive your phone message. We had a meeting in the afternoon and were not able to acknowledge your call.

Lorna J. George

Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner  
Room 223 North, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061  
Fax: 608-282-3661  
lorna.george@legis.wi.gov

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**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

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Scott Gelzer

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3/4/09

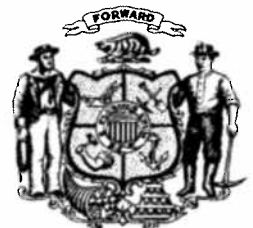
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3/5/2009



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



  
**Alberta Darling**  
**Wisconsin State Senator**  
Member, Joint Committee on Finance

Senator Darling Testimony on AB 70  
Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice  
March 5, 2009

Thank you Chairman Turner and committee members for hearing this important legislation.

AB 70 (and companion bill SB 44) would require handgun background checks to access mental health information that would prohibit a handgun purchase under current federal law.

This bill is identical to 2007 Senate Bill 216 and 2007 Assembly Bill 424 as amended by amendments 1 and 2 to those bills. As amended, in the last session this legislation passed the Assembly on a voice vote, and was recommended for passage by the Senate Committee on Judiciary on a 5-0 vote.

This bill requires the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP) to provide the necessary information to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ), which in turn provides the information to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

This provision strengthens background checks for handgun purchases by closing a loophole that has existed for years under our previous Attorneys General. A federal law exists that prohibits people with an involuntary mental health commitment from possessing firearms, yet Wisconsin does not make that information available when background checks for handgun purchases are performed.

This legislation was prompted largely by the 2007 shootings on the campus of Virginia Tech. The shooter would likely have been prohibited under federal law from purchasing firearms, but Virginia law did not accurately address the issue. At that time, only 23 states submitted any information to the NICS system. That number has since increased, yet Wisconsin is still not one of them. We must ensure that prohibited purchasers can't buy a handgun in Wisconsin because of a loophole that should have been fixed years ago.

- This bill will keep people who are prohibited for mental health reasons under state and federal law from buying handguns.
- This bill makes information required under current federal law available on a NICS handgun background check.
- This bill does not create any new prohibitions for gun purchases; rather, it simply makes information available to DOJ and NICS that is required under law.
- Amendments to the 2007 legislation – incorporated in AB 70 – address privacy concerns brought forth by advocates for individuals with mental illness.

Capitol Office:

P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882  
Phone: 608-266-5830  
Fax: 608-267-0588

Toll-free: 1-800-863-1113

Email: [sen.darling@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:sen.darling@legis.wisconsin.gov)

Web page: [www.legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/sen08/news/](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/sen08/news/)

District Office:

N88 W16621 Appleton Avenue, Suite 200  
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051  
Phone: 262-250-9440  
Fax: 262-250-8510

On January 8, 2008, President Bush signed into law the NICS Improvement Act (HR 2640), a law that provides \$250 million annually to states that implement laws such as AB 70. This bipartisan bill, supported by the NRA, guides participating states how to provide relevant and accurate records to the FBI. The new law takes a carrot-and-stick approach to get states to report people who are ineligible to buy guns. It authorized up to \$250 million a year for five years to states to help pay the cost of providing the records, and threatens to withhold federal anti-crime funds if the states fail to act.

After the Virginia Tech massacre, the US Department of Justice wrote an open letter to every state's Attorney General on May 9, 2007 identifying what steps should be taken to ensure states' compliance with federal law. The letter from the US DOJ is clear in its directive to the states. "ATF and our FBI partners who operate the NICS system are encouraging State authorities to take the necessary actions to ensure that all disqualifying information is provided to prevent the purchase of firearms by those prohibited from possessing firearms under Federal law."

The 2007 legislation was supported by the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, the National Rifle Association, the Milwaukee Police Association, and the University of Wisconsin Police Chief.

We worked closely last session with the Department of Justice to alleviate several concerns posed to us by Mental Health America of Wisconsin:

1. Minimal information is transmitted to NICS from DOJ, and none that identifies a prohibited purchaser as an adjudicated mental defective. This was a concern of the MHA and the bill, as written, ensures this.
2. Information about those adjudicated as a mental defective is not used for anything other than for background check purposes under this law. No other person can access or transmit this information for any other reason. Our bill, as written, ensures this.
3. We make clear that DOJ shall convey information to NICS regarding the cancellation of any such prohibition order against a person. This allows a person's name to be removed once they no longer present a danger. Federal law already guarantees this process will happen, but writing it into statute will doubly ensure it.

Another frequently asked question refers to the privacy issue of the records being released. It is true that current law prevents the Department of Justice from sharing mental health information because such records are confidential under the Mental Health Act. There are exceptions to this Act, and our bill creates another exception to allow the courts to communicate that information to DOJ.

We clearly have the need for this bill, and now we have the funding from the federal government. It's time for Wisconsin to get this done. Thank you for your time today.

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# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## McAdams, Nancy

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**From:** McAdams, Nancy  
**Sent:** Monday, March 09, 2009 9:18 AM  
**To:** 'attaliaalverdes@hotmail.com'  
**Subject:** RE: Support Legislative action to close the loopholes in firearm background checks

Dear Ms. Alverdes:

Thank you for your message regarding Senate Bill 44/Assembly Bill 70, relating to adjudications for involuntary commitment, appointment of a guardian of the person, and protective placement or protective services, and background checks for the purchase of handguns. Representative Turner read your message and asked that I respond to you. I am the Committee Clerk for the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee and was present at last Thursday's hearing. Your comments do not reach us too late because Assembly Bill 70 received a public hearing only, i.e., the Committee did not vote on the bill. State Representative Scott Gunderson spoke in favor of the bill and Senator Alberta Darling submitted written testimony in favor. There were several other e-mail messages from Brandon's family that were handed out to Committee members, although we did receive yours too late, since the hearing took place at 10:00 a.m. I will keep a copy of your e-mail remarks with the official record of the bill. During the testimony on this proposal, there were questions raised by two committee members about expanding the scope of the bill to include voluntary commitments as well as involuntary, and there were other questions about the technical aspects of assuring the privacy of these individuals in both the state and federal computer systems that would have to interface in order to enforce this law. Generally, questions such as these lead to the introduction of some type of amendments that will be introduced to change the substance of the bill. Representative Turner will not hold a vote on the bill until he has assurances that the bill will pass, even if it is amended. I have conveyed this information to Brandon's father by telephone. Thank you again for your heartfelt remarks.

Sincerely,

Nancy McAdams  
Office of State Rep. Robert Turner  
223 North Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953  
Phone: 608-266-0731  
Fax: 608-282-3661

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**From:** Attalia Alverdes [mailto:attaliaalverdes@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2009 8:31 PM  
**To:** Rep.Gunderson; Rep.Richards; Sen.Darling; Sen.Harsdorf; Rep.Turner  
**Subject:** Support Legislative action to close the loopholes in firearm background checks

*(There is a bill pending in both houses of the WI legislature, **SB44** (Senate) and **AB70** (House) that will connect Federal and state laws and records to determine if a person with our son's history would be ineligible to purchase or own a firearm. The bill expands the background check conducted by the Department of Justice to determine if the person is ineligible to purchase a firearm under State and Federal law.*

I hope that my email does not reach you too late. I wanted to take a moment of your time and speak on behalf of someone who no longer can use his own voice in this world.

That person is Brandon Seth Wyzbinski Gelzer. He completed suicide by hand gun on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Brandon was able to purchase not 1, not 2, but 3 handguns. He had been diagnosed with bi-polar and had to be court ordered into hospitalization for fear that he may hurt himself or someone else. He had attempted suicide and was unsuccessful. However, once he had the guns, he was ultimately able to end his life with one of them. Now I'm not trying to say that Brandon would not have found a different way to end his life, but I like to think that we would have had him on this planet for a little longer. And now I have to try to make sense of him not being here anymore. Living without

03/09/2009

him is extremely difficult and I hope that someday it will get easier. At least I can take comfort in the fact that he will always be in my heart. If you knew Brandon you would know that he was an amazing man and someone you wanted in your corner. He was always there for me and everyone else in his life. He truly had a heart of gold and unfortunately a disease that took his life.

So I'm writing you because if this bill passes then maybe it will stop someone else's loved one from buying a gun after they've knowingly already tried to kill themselves and have been committed into hospitalization.

If this email came too late, or if it is not passed, then please don't forget Brandon when this is up for discussion in the future. Please speak for those who can't.

Thank you for taking the time for listening to my voice. My family and everyone whom knew Brandon thanks you!

Kind regards,

Attalia Alverdes

***Attalia Alverdes***

*"Impossible is Nothing" ~ Muhammad Ali*

---

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**George, Lorna**

---

**From:** Attalia Alverdes [attaliaalverdes@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2009 8:31 PM  
**To:** Rep.Gunderson; Rep.Richards; Sen.Darling; Sen.Harsdorf; Rep.Turner  
**Subject:** Support Legislative action to close the loopholes in firearm background checks

*(There is a bill pending in both houses of the WI legislature, **SB44** (Senate) and **AB70** (House) that will connect Federal and state laws and records to determine if a person with our son's history would be ineligible to purchase or own a firearm. The bill expands the background check conducted by the Department of Justice to determine if the person is ineligible to purchase a firearm under State and Federal law.*

I hope that my email does not reach you too late. I wanted to take a moment of your time and speak on behalf of someone who no longer can use his own voice in this world.

That person is Brandon Seth Wyzbinski Gelzer. He completed suicide by hand gun on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Brandon was able to purchase not 1, not 2, but 3 handguns. He had been diagnosed with bi-polar and had to be court ordered into hospitalization for fear that he may hurt himself or someone else. He had attempted suicide and was unsuccessful. However, once he had the guns, he was ultimately able to end his life with one of them. Now I'm not trying to say that Brandon would not have found a different way to end his life, but I like to think that we would have had him on this planet for a little longer. And now I have to try to make sense of him not being here anymore. Living without him is extremely difficult and I hope that someday it will get easier. At least I can take comfort in the fact that he will always be in my heart. If you knew Brandon you would know that he was an amazing man and someone you wanted in your corner. He was always there for me and everyone else in his life. He truly had a heart of gold and unfortunately a disease that took his life.

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If this email came too late, or if it is not passed, then please don't forget Brandon when this is up for discussion in the future. Please speak for those who can't.

Thank you for taking the time for listening to my voice. My family and everyone whom knew Brandon thanks you!

Kind regards,

Attalia Alverdes

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*"Impossible is Nothing" ~ Muhammad Ali*

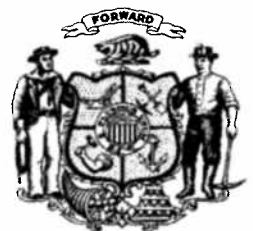
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3/6/2009



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## McAdams, Nancy

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**From:** George, Lorna  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2009 3:46 PM  
**To:** McAdams, Nancy  
**Subject:** FW: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

**From:** Scott Gelzer [mailto:segelzer@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2009 3:22 PM  
**To:** George, Lorna  
**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

Hello - are there any updates on next steps for AB70?

Thanks for your help on this.

Scott Gelzer  
414/839-9760

---

**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner  
**Date:** Thu, 5 Mar 2009 14:38:28 -0600  
**From:** Lorna.George@legis.wisconsin.gov  
**To:** segelzer@hotmail.com

Mr. Gelzer,

Nancy McAdams, my co-worker is the Committee Clerk. She will give you a call to update you on the hearing.

Lorna J. George

Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner  
Room 223 North, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061  
Fax: 608-282-3661  
lorna.george@legis.wi.gov

---

**From:** Scott Gelzer [mailto:segelzer@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2009 2:10 PM  
**To:** George, Lorna  
**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

I'd be interested in learning how today's hearing went....should I give you a call?

Scott Gelzer  
414/839-9760

---

**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner  
**Date:** Thu, 5 Mar 2009 08:38:11 -0600  
**From:** Lorna.George@legis.wisconsin.gov  
**To:** segelzer@hotmail.com

Mr. Gelzer,

03/16/2009

Thank you. We did receive your phone message. We had a meeting in the afternoon and were not able to acknowledge your call.

Lorna J. George

Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner  
Room 223 North, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061  
Fax: 608-282-3661  
lorna.george@legis.wi.gov

---

**From:** Scott Gelzer [mailto:segelzer@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 04, 2009 8:31 PM  
**To:** George, Lorna  
**Subject:** RE: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner

Yes, that would be acceptable. I also left a voicemail to this effect at the Representative's office.

Scott Gelzer

---

Subject: Your e-mail messages to Representative Turner  
Date: Wed, 4 Mar 2009 10:55:30 -0600  
From: Lorna.George@legis.wisconsin.gov  
To: r.gelzer@snet.net; segelzer@hotmail.com  
CC: Nancy.McAdams@legis.wisconsin.gov

3/4/09  
Gentlemen,  
Representative Turner has asked that I check to see if you would allow him to share your e-mail messages with Criminal Justice Committee members at the Public Hearing regarding AB70 tomorrow. Please let me know if this would be acceptable to you since you cannot attend the hearing.

Sincerely,  
Lorna J. George  
Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner  
Room 223 North, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708  
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061  
Fax: 608-282-3661  
lorna.george@legis.wi.gov

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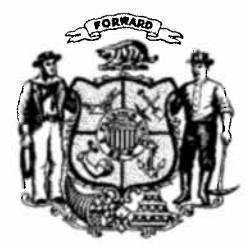
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# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**IMPORTANT MESSAGE**

FOR Nancy

DATE 3/13 TIME 11 AM A.M. P.M.

M. Adrienne

OF \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX AREA CODE NUMBER EXTENSION

MOBILE AREA CODE NUMBER TIME TO CALL

TELEPHONED		PLEASE CALL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CAME TO SEE YOU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		RUSH	
RETURNED YOUR CALL		SPECIAL ATTENTION	

MESSAGE re: A070

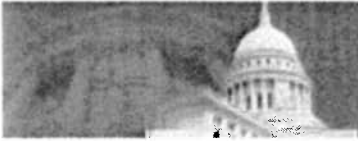
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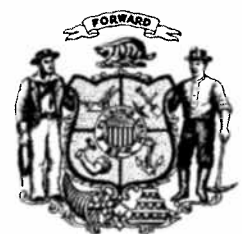
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SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_





# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## McAdams, Nancy

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**From:** McAdams, Nancy  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 11:30 AM  
**To:** 'segelzer@hotmail.com'  
**Cc:** Rep. Turner  
**Subject:** Assembly Bill 70

Dear Mr. Gelzer:

Thank you for your inquiry about the status of Assembly Bill 70. As you know, Representatives Tony Staskunas and Sandy Pasch are looking into amending the bill. I have just heard from Representative Staskunas' office that they still have some inquiries outstanding to certain people/organizations that have not been answered. Another development is that the Wisconsin Gun Owners, Inc. is making calls to legislators and (I assume) people who own guns, that their "rights" are being threatened by this legislation. These automated calls are telling people to contact Rep. Scott Gunderson (author of AB 70) to voice their opposition to it. As you know, Representative Turner has granted Rep. Staskunas the courtesy of an unspecified amount of time to pursue changes to the bill. For this reason, I cannot guarantee that the bill will be scheduled for a vote in the immediate future. I'm sorry I cannot be more specific at this time, but as soon as I have any additional information, I will provide it to you.

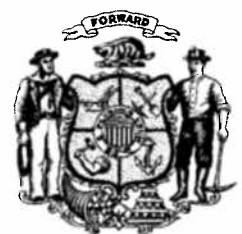
Sincerely,

Nancy McAdams  
Office of State Rep. Robert Turner  
223 North Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953  
Phone: 608-266-0731  
Fax: 608-282-3661





# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## McAdams, Nancy

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**From:** Scott Gelzer [segelzer@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 5:11 PM  
**To:** McAdams, Nancy  
**Subject:** RE: Assembly Bill 70

Thank you Ms. McAdams for this information. I am open to any suggestions you or Representative Turner might have for supporting the bill.

I will contact Representative Richards (I live in his district) and Rep. Gunderson about this issue. I'm not sure how this bill threatens anyone's rights.

Scott Gelzer

---

**Subject:** Assembly Bill 70  
**Date:** Mon, 16 Mar 2009 11:30:16 -0500  
**From:** Nancy.McAdams@legis.wisconsin.gov  
**To:** segelzer@hotmail.com  
**CC:** Rep.Turner@legis.wisconsin.gov

Dear Mr. Gelzer:

Thank you for your inquiry about the status of Assembly Bill 70. As you know, Representatives Tony Staskunas and Sandy Pasch are looking into amending the bill. I have just heard from Representative Staskunas' office that they still have some inquiries outstanding to certain people/organizations that have not been answered. Another development is that the Wisconsin Gun Owners, Inc. is making calls to legislators and (I assume) people who own guns, that their "rights" are being threatened by this legislation. These automated calls are telling people to contact Rep. Scott Gunderson (author of AB 70) to voice their opposition to it. As you know, Representative Turner has granted Rep. Staskunas the courtesy of an unspecified amount of time to pursue changes to the bill. For this reason, I cannot guarantee that the bill will be scheduled for a vote in the immediate future. I'm sorry I cannot be more specific at this time, but as soon as I have any additional information, I will provide it to you.

Sincerely,  
Nancy McAdams  
Office of State Rep. Robert Turner  
223 North Capitol  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953  
Phone: 608-266-0731  
Fax: 608-282-3661

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