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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 2, 2002

Panzer Names Darling Senate Chair of the Joint Finance Committee

Madison.. Senate Majority Leader-elect Mary Panzer announced today that State Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) will serve as Co-Chair of the prestigious Joint Finance Committee for the upcoming 2003-04 legislative session.

"I am pleased to name Senator Darling as the Senate Republican Chair of the Finance Committee," said Panzer. "Senator Darling has worked diligently as a member of the Finance Committee and has taken many hard votes. She has distinguished herself as a leader deserving of this role."

Senator Darling was appointed to the Joint Finance Committee in 2000 where she has fought to protect taxpayers and pushed to make government more efficient and accountable.

"Senator Darling is very well respected in the Capitol for her ability to work with both Republicans and Democrats to forge consensus on issues," said Panzer. "This is going to be a difficult budget, but I am confident that Senator Darling will lead us through these difficult times and get our State to a better place fiscally."

The Joint Finance Committee is the first body that reviews and passes the biennial budget at the beginning of each session. The Committee also examines all other legislation that appropriates money or relates to taxation or revenue.

"What we have to remember is that the taxpayer comes first. The voters made that perfectly clear during the election," said Panzer. "I know that Senator Darling understands this and that she will guide the Committee to shape a budget with the taxpayers in mind."

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