

Friends of Alberta Darling
P.O. Box 868
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051



Visit us on the web at
albertadarling.com

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Contact Alberta Darling (414) 235-1391

STATEMENT BY SENATOR ALBERTA DARLING
Regarding: Negative smear campaign spreading lies about Darling's health

"It has come to my attention that Sheldon Wasserman's campaign has been complicit in spreading a lie that I have been 'struggling with health problems.'

"For Sheldon Wasserman, a doctor, to allow lies to be spread about the health of a 63-year-old breast cancer survivor and imply I'm unfit to run for office is a real slap in the face to women my age and to cancer survivors. He's shown a complete lack of ethical standards, yet I continue to pledge to not stoop to such personal attacks.

"Milwaukee Magazine recently published unsubstantiated gossip from an un-identified source that I am 'struggling with health problems.' The editor later acknowledged the failure to back up this claim and has printed a statement pointing out the mistake.

"Democrat Senate Majority Leader Russ Decker publicly spread this lie while promoting Sheldon Wasserman and his campaign to a gathering of Madison lobbyists on April 2. Yesterday, Wasserman's Senate Democrat Campaign Committee further perpetuated this lie by stating to the media that 'Senator Darling no longer seems to be up to the task.'

"The truth is, I'm physically fit and in very good health, and I challenge anyone to keep up with my aggressive schedule meeting face-to-face with constituents. I'm going door-to-door in addition to attending community functions and meeting with people at numerous town hall meetings.

"As a doctor, one should expect Sheldon Wasserman to uphold an ethical standard to not allow lies to be spread about somebody's health. This sort of gutter politics will be widely rejected by the good people residing in my district.

"In addition to my grassroots campaign, I've out-raised Wasserman 3-to1 last year according to campaign finance reports, amassing over a quarter million dollars and I continue that same effort into 2008. People overwhelmingly support my record and agenda on creating jobs, reducing taxes, and making health care affordable.

"Sheldon Wasserman has likely allowed these personal attacks to continue against me because his record of giving handouts to illegal aliens, his opposition to voter ID, and his opposition to banning partial birth abortions doesn't resonate with the voters."