

# Hearings look to plug loopholes in drinking laws

By Dave Varga  
staff writer

Don Cronin was 28, the father of an 8-month-old girl, and a respected Flint-area attorney when he was killed by a drunk driver.

His father, Donald Cronin, the former mayor of Flint, now wants every drunk driver to spend time in jail. "If you knew today that if you're caught drinking and driving that you're going to spend seven days in jail, you would think twice about it," Cronin testified at a public hearing about drunk driving laws Monday in Farmington Hills.

State Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, hosted the public hearing with two other members of a House of Representatives Republican policy committee, who will report on testimony later this summer after a series of hearings around the state. "We're going to look at everything that's in place and say, 'What's missing?'" Dolan said after the meeting.

**SPEAKERS SUGGESTED** toughening laws such as lowering the drunk driving blood alcohol limit from .10 percent to .08 percent; enacting new laws including removing the license of anyone under 21 convicted of a drinking and driving offense; and better educating liquor sellers about the problem.

Researchers say only one of every 2,000 drunk drivers on the road is

**"We're going to look at everything that's in place and say, 'What's missing?'"**

— State Rep. Jan Dolan

ever arrested, Oakland County prosecutor Richard Thompson said.

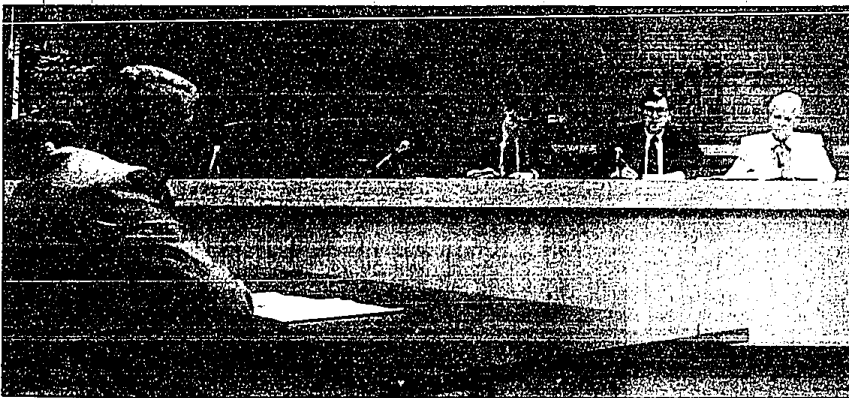
"Thus, even social drinkers are willing to take the risk," he said.

People aren't deterred from drinking and driving even when they know there's an increase in certainty or severity of punishment. Mandatory laws can even keep police, prosecutors and judges from fully prosecuting drunk drivers, he said.

Instead, Thompson urged lawmakers to pass a law specifying that someone who refuses to take a Breathalyzer can have that refusal used as evidence against them in a drunk driving trial.

"Right now, jurors cannot be made aware of that refusal," Thompson said. "If we can't mention it at trial, jurors have felt that the police officers acted improperly or unfairly by failing to offer the test." Or the prosecutor didn't introduce it as evidence, he said.

Such a law, Thompson said, would correct the jurors' impression and increase the number of cases where drunk drivers plead guilty.



Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer asked lawmakers to limit the number of hours a convicted driver can drive to 10

or 12 a day, and require them to submit to a preliminary breath test.

**TWO MEMBERS** of the Oakland County Sheriff's alcohol enforcement team, deputies Lewis Tyler and Bruce Pearson, testified in favor of such a bill, along with increasing the penalty for refusal to take the preliminary breath test from a six months to one year automatic license suspension.

They also asked lawmakers to consider lowering the allowable blood alcohol level.

"We constantly stop people .06, .07 or .08," Tyler said. "Legal in the eyes of the law, but they shouldn't be on the road."

Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer testified that the last time legislators changed drunk driving laws, in 1983, the public attention helped cut the number of drinking and driving arrests by 24 percent in Farmington Hills.

"A drop, I feel, reflected not only an increased awareness, but equally, a public opinion that if you drove under the influence there was a reasonable assurance of punishment," he said.

He asked lawmakers to limit the number of hours a convicted driver can drive to 10 or 12 a day, and re-

quire them to submit to a preliminary breath test, set a specific length of time for detoxification after arrests; mandate no plea bargaining; and begin a training program for liquor sellers.

**GRAND BLANC** High School student Jennifer Petriken, representing Students Against Driving Drunk leaders in Genesee County, asked the legislators to take away the license of youths until they're 21 if they have a drunk driving offense.

"Mondays all you hear in the hallways is about all the parties and how

drunk people got and how they drove home that night," Petriken said. "Many youths drink and drive because they have no fear of getting caught."

Ideas getting a lot of support at these hearings are allowing refusal to take a breath test to be admitted as evidence in a trial and taking away licenses for younger drivers, Dolan said.

"Having raised four sons I could think of nothing worse than having their driver's license taken away," she said.

RANDY DORST/Staff photographer

**The New Home of Designers Fabric & Interior Service**

**Fabric - 20% off**      **Labor - 25% off**

Custom Slipcovers - Chair - reg. 145.00 now 108.00\*  
 Custom Headboards - Twin - reg. 335.00 now 250.00\*  
 Custom Upholstery - Chair - reg. 315.00 now 236.00\*

Coordinating: Wallpaper, Drapes, Combed, Bedspreads,  
 Dust Ruffles, Towel Linens, Tablecloths and more.  
 \*Example of Labor Fee

**In-Home Consultation Available**  
 Decorators Welcome

**Artistry Fabrics**  
 Let us find your fabric

MEMBER OF THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

158 Rochester Road • 2 Bldgs. S. of 14 Mile Rd. • 588-4130

Receive a Sperry tote bag with our compliments with any Sperry Top-Sider purchase, April 27-May 14.

**Sperry Casual Shoes... When Comfort Counts**

Enjoy the original classic Sperry canvas oxford in white, royal, tan or grey. Lined in linen for ultimate comfort, and designed with a slip-resistant rubber sole. \$35.

**GRAHAM & GUNN**

Somerset Mall  
 2849 West Big Beaver Road  
 Troy, MI 48064  
 (313) 643-6700

Graham & Gunn Ltd. Charge, American Express, Visa, MasterCard, Diner's Club

## SUMMER BEAUTIFUL BUYS

**CAN'T-WAIT-FOR-SUMMER SAVINGS STRAIGHT FROM THE PAGES OF OUR BEAUTIFUL BUY BOOK!**

**SPORTSWEAR**

29.99 and 32.99 T's and flowered shorts. Solid and patterned T-tops to pair with shorts in provincial florals, many from Herman Geist, everything cotton. Reg. 40.00 to 44.00

29.99 to 115.99 well-cut separates. Houndstooth, glen plaid, solid-color jackets, matching skirts, pants plus shirts, sweaters. Misses and petite sizes. Reg. 40.00 to 156.00

At a special 29.99, essential summer blouses. Camphits to the prettiest flower-spigged blouses.

35.99 and 59.99 contemporary go-togethers — our exclusive cap-sleeved rayon blouse, its matching swirl of skirt. Reg. 70.00 to 94.00

Special 19.99 to 44.99 cotton knits. Tanks and tunics to pants and dirdis in solids and florals, many ours alone.

Special at 24.99 to 29.99 country weekenders. Red-white-blue cotton sheering separates.

19.99 and 21.99 shorts and skirts in solids or stripes. Reg. 25.00 and 30.00

19.99 cotton pullovers — crew-necks to mock turtle-necks. Reg. 25.00 and 27.00

29.99 the dressed-up T-shirt. Soft-appeals, patchworks, lace yokes, buttons, bows and more. Reg. 38.00 and 40.00

24.99 our exclusive sheering pants in whole summer of pastels. Reg. 32.00

**SHOES AND HANDBAGS**

29.99 to 74.99 summer dress shoes, casuals, sandals by Evan-Picone, Perry Ellis, Van Eli, Bondolino, Liz Claiborne, 9 West, Divertente and our own exclusives, reg. 48.00 to 105.00

44.99 to 119.99 leather handbags, totes, hobos, clutches, reg. 60.00 to 160.00

**JEWELRY & ACCESSORIES**

99.99 to 299.99 14-kt. gold earrings for a gleaming summer, reg. 200.00 to 600.00

19.99 to 299.99 sterling silver jewelry, a superb selection, reg. 40.00 to 600.00

129.99 to 999.99 precious stone jewelry, fabulous sapphires, ruby, emerald, diamond and 14-kt. gold rings, pendants, earrings, brooches, pins, more! Reg. 220.00 to 1550.00

Special priced at 49.99 moon phase watches by Paul Faugnot with quartz movements.

20% off hosiery by Christian Dior

Special priced at 29.99 leather belts, crocodile embossed in many colors.

**SUITS**

Special purchase at 139.99, cutaway suits. Summer's newest short-sleeved styles with the line finishing touches of Kasper for A.S.I.

129.99 three-part spectator suits. Reg. 175.00

**INTIMATE APPAREL**

25% off beautiful bras from Lily of France, Olga and Vanity Fair, the perfect selection for summer's fashions.

19.99 to 26.99 nighttime cottons: gowns, sleepshirts and pajamas, many ours alone, reg. 27.00 to 36.00

29.99 to 39.99 sundresses by David Brown, Star of India, I. Appel and our own exclusive designs, reg. 34.00 to 54.00

**YOUNG AMERICAN JUNIORS**

Special priced at 9.99 summer tops — polka dotted cotton (tempo) tank tops in four colors and pocketed T-shirt in ten colors.

Special at 14.99 new fuller-leg shorts, cotton poplin or sheering, solids and prints.

**FOR CHILDREN**

Special at 14.99 and 17.99 sundresses in stripes, dots, circus-bright solids. Cotton, cotton-polyester. Toddlers, sizes 4 to 6x.

Special priced at 8.99 and 9.99 must-have bags including tote, ball bag both with pictures.

Special at 9.99 to 21.99, big boys cottonwear including screen printed, color blocked and tie dyed T's, tops, shorts, swim trunks and pants.

9.99 and 14.99 our biker play-mates for girls, oversized T plus biker shorts, reg. 13.00 and 19.00

**Pick up your copy of our Summer Beautiful Buy Book at your nearest Lord & Taylor.**

**DRESSES**

Special at 59.99 to 129.99 romantic dresses. Kathryn Conover, S. G. Gilbert, Belle France, Karin Stevens, Jessica Howard, and others.

Special 129.99 and 169.99 exclusive silks — a beautifully flowered chemise as well as a form-fitting two-piece pajama set.

Very special at 99.99 to 129.99, linens with daytime drama from such names as Andrea Jovine, Jeannene Booher for Maggy London.

Special at 79.99 to 199.99 dresser dresses, two-part white linen, peplum wraps, bare-back damask and more.

69.99 and 79.99 two-part dressing. Soft, feminine partners, day-to-dinner prints, shirtdresses. Misses and petites sizes. Reg. 90.00 to 114.00

Special priced at 69.99 lighthearted knits, black-white or refreshing floral print cottons. Women's sizes 79.99

**THE MAN'S SHOP**

129.99 and 159.99 our own and Hasep® suits. Crisp summer polyester-cottons. Regulars, shorts, longs. Orig. 195.00 and 215.00

109.99 cotton chambray and Madras sportcoats. Regulars, shorts, longs. Orig. 150.00

16.99 and 19.99 half-sleeve dress shirts, ours alone in cool cotton-polyester stripes, solids, Oxfordcloth, broadcloth, button-down, straight-point collars. Reg. 23.99 and 27.50

14.99 silk palefey, foulard ties, reg. 20.00

19.99 our half-sleeve cotton sportshirts, gingham checks or stripes, reg. 25.00

14.99 to 24.99 exclusive cotton knit shirts. Striped jerseys, T's and polos in solids. Reg. 20.00 to 32.00

29.99 our cotton canvas slacks, reg. 38.00

15.99 to 19.99 our own cotton twill shorts, reg. 22.50 to 25.00

**HOME FURNISHINGS**

19.99 to 63.99 eyellet lace sheet sets. Our very own, very romantic Maison Rose pattern by Martex. Twin to king, reg. 40.00 to 128.00

3 for 29.99 all sizes, goose feather pillows, extra firm support. Reg. 30.00 to 40.00 each.

14.99 to 29.99 thermal blankets. Colorful acrylic, twin to king, Reg. 30.00 to 60.00

12.99 sunny printed beach towels. Dozlers in soft cotton, 30x60" size, reg. 20.00

9.99 to 29.99 all-weather Victoriana, for vanity tables, picture frames, mirror, powder box, dresser set, more. Reg. 14.50 to 42.50

39.99 each, lead crystal decanters and barware. Set of 4 double old-fashioned, pair of beer mugs. Reg. 60.00

Sale ends May 2nd.  
 Lord & Taylor, Fairlane, Lakeside, Twelve Oaks and Briarwood Mall.

Selections in all Lord & Taylor stores, but not every collection in every store.