



For Immediate Release

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Why wait till next year to address Lincoln Hills, Governor?

Walker's track record of broken promises speaks for itself



MADISON – After years of failed leadership at Lincoln Hills, Governor Walker announced today he will be introducing a new juvenile corrections model in the next state budget. The Governor has over a year left in his term in which he could promote legislative action. By waiting until the next budget, the earliest this plan could take effect would be July of 2019.

“When the health and well-being of troubled kids and hardworking staff are not enough for Governor Walker to consider doing something, we can always count on political expediency,” said Representative Gordon Hintz. *“Only after his former Corrections Secretary Ed Wall blasted Governor Walker for not taking the problems at Lincoln Hills seriously enough, did the Governor become interested. If the crisis at Lincoln Hills were a priority, we could act today. There is absolutely no reason to put this plan in the next budget. Democrats have been calling for urgent action on juvenile corrections reform for years. Representative Evan Goyke has recently proposed reforms with bipartisan support that are shockingly similar to what was proposed today. If the Governor is serious about these efforts, let’s take up those bills this month and pass them.”*

“The Governor’s track record is long on promises and short on results. There is a difference between saying you are going to address something and actually doing it. The Governor has said he would “fix” transportation in past budgets as well.”

“The guards and kids at Lincoln Hills don’t have the luxury of making decisions based on political polling. They are facing an impossible situation on a daily basis. The Governor needs to act in their best interests, and not in the best interest of his 2018 campaign.”

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