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Rep. Considine Calls for Corrections Policy Improvements

Green Bay, Oshkosh – Today, Rep. Dave Considine (D-Baraboo) joined Sen. Jon Erpenbach, current and former Wisconsin correctional officers, and other legislators in announcing policies to improve safety and security at state Department of Corrections (DOC) institutions.

“These policies were developed directly from conversations with correctional officers, staff, and their families in Portage and other areas of the state,” said Rep. Considine. “The major safety and security concerns these citizens face on the job every day are not new issues. It is long past time for the Legislature, Governor Walker, and DOC to work together on taking action to keep our communities safe.”

The proposals announced include four weeks of on the job training for new recruits, training for officers that dispense medication, requiring first responder units to be fully staffed at every shift for back-up, requiring at least one guard tower and one perimeter to be staffed during every shift, allowing workers to collectively bargain for workplace safety, limiting the consecutive shifts of overtime allowed to two, requiring incident reports to be public, and adjusting sergeant pay advances with officer pay to address sergeant vacancies.

“I am proud to join my colleagues in introducing these much-needed improvements to Wisconsin’s correctional system. These are not partisan issues, and our policies are the first step to real solutions,” Considine stated.

For a copy of the draft legislation, please contact Sen. Erpenbach’s office at (608) 266-6670.

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