



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Green Bay Correctional Institution Decommissioning Date Established

State Budget Codifies Closure Deadline

Madison, WI — Today, the Joint Committee on Finance announced a proposal supported by State Representative Benjamin Franklin (R-De Pere), State Representative David Steffen (R-Howard), and State Senator Eric Wimberger (R-Oconto) to include a decommissioning date for the Green Bay Correctional Institution in the state budget.

“The Joint Committee on Finance is taking a tremendous leap toward the necessary and final closure of GBCI,” said Rep. Franklin. “Formalizing a decommissioning date into state law will ensure decisive action is taken to solve this longstanding issue and prevent the bureaucratic delays which have plagued this situation for far too long.”

The proposal inserts language mandating GBCI be decommissioned by the end of 2029, compelling the state to act in this timeframe and implement a plan for closure.

“GBCI is an unsafe, unstable, and unsustainable facility,” Rep. Steffen said. “While it has taken nearly a decade, I’m incredibly thankful we are moving forward now on closing the prison.”

The provision will be included in the state budget that will be brought before both chambers and eventually sent to the Governor’s desk. Pending a partial veto, it will become official state law upon the signing of the budget.

“Laying the groundwork to finally close GBCI is a significant step for Northeast Wisconsin,” said Sen. Wimberger. “I look forward to continuing the important work of protecting public safety in our communities across the region.”

For more information, please contact the office of Representative Franklin at (608) 237-9188 or by email at Rep.Franklin@legis.wisconsin.gov.

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