

July 1, 2025 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Senator Eric Wimberger – (608) 266-5670

Wimberger Statement on Budget's Commitment to Close Green Bay Correctional by 2029

MADISON – Senator Eric Wimberger (R-Oconto) released the following statement after the Joint Committee on Finance, the state's budget-writing committee, voted today to include a provision in the 2025-26 State Budget to close Green Bay Correctional (GBCI) by 2029:

"Green Bay Correctional's days are numbered.

Today, the Finance Committee approved funding for a Type 1 juvenile facility that will replace Lincoln Hills, and Lincoln Hills will be converted to a medium security prison. The new space will draw medium-security inmates out of maximum-security facilities who are only there due to crowding, allowing the consolidation of maximum-security facilities in coming years.

Many thanks to Representatives Benjamin Franklin and David Steffen for working with me and getting the project through the Finance Committee."

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State Senator Eric Wimberger is an attorney, small business owner, and former Marine Captain. He serves as a member of the Joint Committee on Finance and Co-Chair of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. He represents the 2nd Senate District, including parts of Brown, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, and Waupaca Counties.

A media kit for Senator Wimberger can be found here.