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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DOC Backtracks, Decides to Accept LAB Recommendation

MADISON – The co-chairs of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) Senator Wimberger (R-Green Bay) and Representative Wittke (R-Racine) released the following statement in response to the Department of Corrections’ decision to promulgate rules on their Evidence-Based Response to Violations Project after multiple calls to do so from the committee:

“This program has real-life consequences for offenders and our communities, and the DOC needed to formalize its policies or risk putting the state in legal jeopardy. We are glad to see, that despite arguing against this clear need, the department has recognized their error and agreed to follow the Legislative Audit Bureau’s recommendation to promulgate these statutorily-required rules.”

[Audit report 23-5](#) was released in April and evaluated various aspects of the Department of Corrections’ community corrections program. This program is responsible for overseeing individuals convicted of a crime and residing in the community on parole, probation or extended supervision. The audit outlined 27 recommendations including recommendations for the department to promulgate statutorily-required administrative rules.

In the [April 20th public hearing](#) and in a letter from the department to the JLAC co-chairs following hearing, the DOC stated they did not believe they needed to promulgate additional rules to implement their Evidence-Based Response to Violations Project. DOC has now stated they’ve initiated the process to begin to promulgate those rules.

Copies of LAB’s report may be obtained from its website at www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lab or by calling (608) 266-2818. To report concerns related to state government activities, call LAB’s toll-free hotline at 1-877-FRAUD-17.

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