

2015 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 27

February 16, 2016 - Introduced by Representatives CONSIDINE, BARNES, BOWEN, KESSLER, SHANKLAND and BARCA. Referred to Committee on Assembly Organization.

1	Relating to: investigation of juvenile and adult corrections programs and facilities.
2	Whereas, over the past several months media accounts have documented a
3	pattern of mismanagement, resulting in cases of abuse and violence occurring at
4	state Department of Corrections facilities; and
5	Whereas, the state Department of Justice opened a criminal investigation into
6	alleged abuse at Lincoln Hills School for Boys in January 2015, including allegations
7	of sexual assault and misconduct in public office; and
8	Whereas, the Lincoln County district attorney initiated a John Doe probe into
9	alleged abuse in October 2015, and more recently the Federal Bureau of
10	Investigation has joined the investigation; and
11	Whereas, documentation confirms that Judge Richard Kreul made the Walker
12	Administration aware of allegations of sexual and physical assault at Lincoln Hills
13	dating back as far as at least February 2012; and
14	Whereas, reports from several adult correctional facilities show high rates of
15	staff vacancies, high staff turnover due to harsh working conditions; and

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1	Whereas, reports, including testimony to the Joint Committee on Employee
2	Relations, note that the number of assaults on staff as well as inmates at adult
3	correctional facilities have been on the rise in recent years; and
4	Whereas, the safety and security of both the students in juvenile corrections
5	facilities and corrections officers employed at these facilities are a serious matter of
6	great state interest; now, therefore, be it
7	Resolved by the assembly, That the Wisconsin state assembly expresses deep
8	concerns over the management and administration of state juvenile corrections
9	programs and facilities; and, be it further
10	Resolved, That the Wisconsin state assembly hereby directs the Assembly
11	Committee on Audit to develop and submit a request to the Joint Legislative Audit
12	Committee for a program evaluation audit of state corrections programs before
13	February 23, 2016, and, be it further
14	Resolved, That the Wisconsin state assembly hereby directs the Assembly
15	Committee on Corrections to hold no fewer than three oversight hearings on both
16	juvenile and adult corrections programs and facilities before July 1, 2016, and report
17	to the assembly on its findings before September 1, 2016.
18	(END)