MEMORANDUM

To: Members
   Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
      Representative John Nygren

Date: February 1, 2019

Re: DOC Report to JFC

Attached is a report from the Department of Corrections, pursuant to s. 301.03(6m), Stats.

This report is being provided for your information only. No action by the Committee is required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm
Re: Reporting under section 301.03(6m) Wisconsin Statutes

Dear Sirs and Madam:

The following information is provided for your consideration and review pursuant to §301.03(6m)(a), (b), and (c), of the Wisconsin Statutes. The figures below pertain to calendar year 2018.

(a) The number of prisoners transferred to a mental health institute under s. 51.20(13)(a)4 and their average length of stay and the number of prisoners transferred to a mental health institute on a voluntary basis and their average length of stay.

a) There were 134 Chapter 51 mental health commitments within the Department of Corrections. Of these, 32 were initial commitments and 102 were extensions of commitments from previous years. This number includes both male and female inmates. All of the commitments were obtained at the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC).

After a Chapter 51 commitment, inmates returned to the WRC for further treatment. The average length of stay for WRC inmates was 316 days for male inmates and 185 days for female inmates. Two male inmates were temporarily transferred from WRC to Mendota Mental Health Institute on an involuntary basis.

None of the 134 commitments were obtained at Taycheedah Correctional Institution. Due to the availability of the women’s unit at the WRC, no female inmates were transferred to Winnebago Mental Health Institute.
(b) The number of prisoners being treated with psychotropic drugs on both a voluntary and involuntary basis and the type of drugs being used.

b) The total number of inmates who were treated with psychotropic medication in 2018 was 9,792. This number includes inmates who were incarcerated for short-term stays as well as long-term stays. The number of inmates who were treated with psychotropic medication on any specific date is estimated at approximately 5,574. Of these, the number treated on an involuntary basis was the same as the number of involuntary commitments. Major classes of medication included antidepressants, antipsychotics, and mood stabilizers.

(c) A description of the mental health services available to prisoners on both a voluntary and involuntary basis.

c) Mental Health Services are available at all of the major institutions. Services include crisis intervention, individual counseling, and group therapy. Specific programs include sex offender treatment, anger management, domestic violence, substance abuse treatment, and cognitive interventions. Psychiatrists are available at all major institutions to provide evaluations for psychotropic medication and management of these medications. In addition, consultation is available from both psychologists and psychiatrists to evaluate competency to consent to psychotropic medication and/or medical treatment.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please contact Paulina de Haan at 240-5056.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Carr
Secretary

Cc: Amy Pechacek, Deputy Secretary
    Shannon Carpenter, Assistant Deputy Secretary
    Makda Fessahaye, Administrator for Division of Adult institutions
    Ronald Hermes, Administrator for Division of Management Services