

Walker Proposes to Close Lincoln Hills after the Election

Written by Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Melanie Conklin
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Six years of dangerous inaction by Walker and Legislative Republicans caused a crisis at the juvenile facility to mount and still no immediate action is planned.

MADISON -- “Almost 50 years in the legal system, I’ve seen and heard a lot [but] the indifference in this sordid tale is absolutely inexcusable.”

Gov. Scott Walker’s history of indifference toward outrageous violence, out-of-control abuse and horrifying neglect of Wisconsin residents working and living at Lincoln Hills School for Boys juvenile corrections facility is inexcusable.

However, the sentence quoted above is from an alarming letter Walker received from a Racine circuit judge back in 2012, shortly after Walker shipped juveniles from other corrections facilities to Lincoln Hills in his first budget. An attached memo sent by the judge details a juvenile being sexually assaulted and knocked unconscious and left for hours without medical attention.

Walker’s latest proposal to close Lincoln Hills comes six years after he was first warned about the ongoing abuse, mismanagement and neglect at the facility. While any reprieve from the nightmarish conditions at Lincoln Hills is welcome, Walker’s future solutions with no immediate action come at the expense of the guards and residents who suffer while Walker ignores their plight. The majority of Walker’s proposals will not take effect until 2019, leaving guards and residents at risk of further violence and abuse.

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