



CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE FOR A NO VOTE ON PRIVATE PRISONS!

H.B. 4467 WOULD GIVE PRIVATE PRISONS A FOOT IN THE DOOR

Please contact your state representative and ask them to vote no on H.B. 4467, if it comes up for a vote.

As MCO reported in last week's KYI, H.B. 4467 would allow GEO, a private prison company, to house Level V and higher inmates at the shuttered Baldwin prison.

The bill passed out of a House committee this week. Next, the entire House of Representatives will take it up for a vote. The vote hasn't been scheduled yet.

At this time, GEO claims it wants to house inmates from other states at the facility, and the company merely needs the flexibility to house high-level prisoners there. GEO says it's in talks with two states that may want to ship inmates to Baldwin.

But this seems like yet another thinly-disguised push to privatize Michigan's prisons. The legislature tried it last year when they attempted to arbitrarily cap the number of inmates MDOC oversees. And in 2012, legislators passed a bill that forced MDOC to solicit



The Michigan House of Representatives in session last year.

bids for a private prison. When will this issue be put to rest? If GEO reopens Baldwin, they'll have their foot in Michigan's door again.

Corporations should not profit from imprisoning human beings.

The state should have the responsibility of incarcerating people, not profit-driven corporations cloaked in secrecy.

With your help, we can dismantle this bill. Please contact your representative to ask for a no vote.

You can go to mco-seiu.org to email your representative, but we recommend you look up their phone number and address because phone calls and good old fashioned letters carry more sway with legislators. Please call your own representative only.

We'll keep you posted on the progress of this bill.

AROUND THE STATE: URF CO INJURED; LMF INMATES MAD ABOUT FOOD

A fight involving more than a dozen Level IV inmates broke out Tuesday at Chippewa.

The prisoners were walking back from breakfast chow when the melee started. Officers believe the fight was gang related. Sixteen prisoners were sent to seg. There were several Taser deployments, an officer said. Two homemade weapons were found in the area of the fight.

One CO suffered a knee strain while responding, and some inmates had minor injuries.

An Alger member says they "almost lost a wing in segregation" due to a food service mistake.

Hot trays served in the A-wing of Aspen unit Monday evening had undercooked potatoes. After prisoners made threats, a sergeant ordered new hot trays.

Several inmates refused to turn in their trays, and some inmates started screaming and kicking their cell doors. One prisoner was issued an incite-to-riot ticket.

Also this week at LMF, an Aramark worker was fired for allegedly watching TV in a unit instead of overseeing chow lines.

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