



Michigan Corrections Organization

Service Employees International Union Local 526M

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www.mco-seiu.org



April 18, 2018

The Honorable Tom Leonard
Speaker of the House
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Speaker Leonard,

For over 50 years, the Michigan Corrections Organization (MCO) has represented corrections officers across the state of Michigan.

During that time, we have fought for many changes in the department. Some changes have given officers better tools to do the job while others have focused on increasing safety and security for all staff.

Regardless of the issue, we have always conducted ourselves as professionals and approached the challenges in a safe and responsible manner.

Today, we are again faced with changes within the department of corrections and are troubled by the recent house proposal to close an additional prison. The MDOC is on the record stating that excess capacity does not currently exist within the system and projections do not warrant a closure. MCO fully agrees with this assessment.

It is no secret that facilities across Michigan are severely understaffed (600-700 CO's statewide) and officers are being asked to do more with less.

Forcing an additional closure would result in further overcrowding of facilities, place staff at risk and jeopardize offender success by reducing the ability to provide much needed programming and educational opportunities.

As professionals, we understand the budget challenges our department faces but believe strongly that de-carceration must be done safely and responsibly.

As the budget process continues to move forward, MCO remains committed to being a resource and would welcome the opportunity to share the collective knowledge and expertise of front line staff.

Respectfully,
Michigan Corrections Organization, SEIU Local 526M, Executive Council

Michigan Corrections Organization, SEIU Local 526M, Executive Council

President

Thomas Tylutki



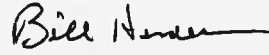
Vice President

Andy Potter



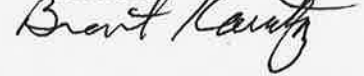
Financial Secretary

Bill Henderson



Recording Secretary

Brent Kowitz



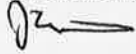
Board Member

Ray Scholtz



Board Member

Ed Clements



Board Member

Byron Oshorn



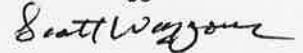
Board Member

Cary Johnson



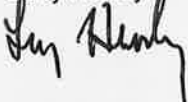
Board Member

Scott Waggoner



Alger-LMF

Larry Henley



Baraga-AMF

Doug Gilbertson



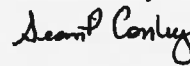
SAI Program

Monoletoe McDonald



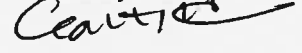
Bellamy Creek-IBC

Sean Conley



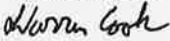
Brooks-LRF

Anthony Hurst




Carson City

Warren Cook



Central MI-STF

John Bott

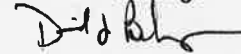


Gus Harrison Complex

Scott Waggoner

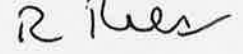
Chippewa-URF

David Belanger



Cooper Street-JCS

Rick Ries



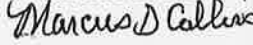
Cotton-JCF

Rene Pattino



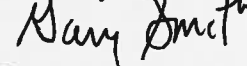
Detroit Det. Center

Marcus Collins




Detroit Re-Entry

Gary Smith



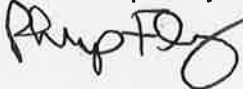
Egeler-RGC

Aaron Hawkins



Forensic Center

Phillip Fleury



Handlon-MTU

David Pasche



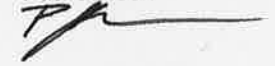
Huron Valley-WHV

Latese Walls



Ionia-ICF

Paul Jensen



Kinross-KCF

Merle Vollick



Lakeland-LCF

Jonathan Hoath



Macomb-MRF

Fatima Olden



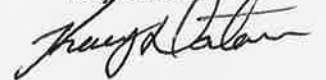
Marquette-MBP

Eric Hemmila



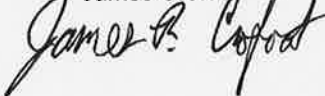
MI Reformatory

Kacy Datema



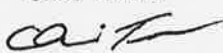
Muskegon-MCF

James Crofoot



Newberry-NCF

Chris Takala



Oaks-ECF

Mark Dunn



Ojibway-OCF

Gabe Justinak



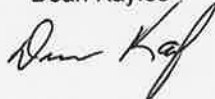
Parnall-SMT

Sean Spahn



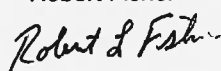
Saginaw-SRF

Dean Kayfes



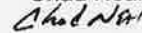
St. Louis-SLF

Robert Fisher



Woodland-WCC

Chad Neal



Thumb-TCF

Patrick McGough

