



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

Memo No. 2

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PLACEMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS

FROM: Anne Sappenfield and Don Salm, Senior Staff Attorneys

RE: Suggestions for Consideration by the Special Committee

DATE: November 13, 2006

This Memo contains a brief summary of the suggestions that were made related to placement and supervision of sex offenders at the September 14, 2006 meeting of the Special Committee. The suggestions listed in this Memo are from Special Committee members.

It is likely that further suggestions will be made in the course of ongoing committee discussion. If necessary, further issues may be added to the summary in this Memo. The Special Committee may identify issues in this Memo for further consideration as legislation.

### **DEFINITIONS**

- Create a definition of “high-risk sex offenders.” This definition could be used for purposes such as placement or community notification.

### **PLACEMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS**

- Require that sexually violent persons (i.e., persons committed under ch. 980, Stats.) who are placed on supervised release in Milwaukee County be placed in their city, town, or village of residence.
- Allow sexually violent persons who are placed on supervised release to be placed in Huber facilities.
- Explore housing options, such as shared living arrangements.

### **NOTIFICATION**

- Notify university or college law enforcement when an offender is placed near the university or college.
- Provide access for university or college law enforcement to the sex offender registry data currently available to local law enforcement.
- Give local law enforcement officials direct access to an offender's global positioning system (GPS) tracking data.
- Encourage the Director of State Courts and the Department of Corrections (DOC) to arrange to have the fact that a person is a registered sex offender included on the Consolidated Court Automated Program (CCAP).
- Notify the victim of a sex offense when the offender violates his or her GPS tracking requirements.
- Permit victims to have access to technology that would allow them to be notified when the offender is within a certain distance of them.
- Notify the legislator when a sex offender is placed in his or her district.

### **SUPERVISION**

- Require sex offender registrants to have more frequent face-to-face contact with DOC agents.
- Require more frequent photographing of registered sex offenders and require photographing when a sex offender changes his or her appearance.

### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

- Communicate to the public the systems and processes in place for supervising sex offenders in the community.
- Create educational materials for parents and the general public on the following:
  - Sex offender treatment.
  - Evaluation of an offender for purposes of sentencing and community placement.
  - Components of sex offender community supervision.
  - Services and supports available to victims of sex-related crimes.
  - Groups that provide community protection.

- Steps to prevent victimization.
- Steps to take if sexually assaulted.
- Who to contact if there are questions or concerns about an offender who is placed in the community.
- Post public education information on the sex offender registry and the DOC websites.
- Create audio and visual versions of public education materials and written versions for distribution.

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