

Wachs campaign: Wachs calls on Walker administration to close Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake

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EAU CLAIRE – Dana Wachs released a statement today in support of an effort led by the prison-reform advocates and Democratic legislators to close the embattled Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake correctional facilities for Wisconsin youth.

“Wisconsin youth advocates and Democratic legislators are showing more leadership for Wisconsin youth and families than we have from the current governor’s office. It’s clear that we have serious safety and civil liberties issues at these facilities. It’s time to close up shop and find another way to rehabilitate the youth incarcerated at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake.

“We need a new solution for Wisconsin youth — one that protects the rights of the children we lock up and the dedicated employees who teach, guard, and care for these youth.

“I’m appalled that we have numerous cases of staff being beaten. We have evidence of extended, repeated solitary confinement or the use of shackles on these children. With all this evidence, Gov. Walker still hasn’t been to Lincoln Hills. It’s irresponsible and unacceptable.”