

Sen. Wanggaard and Speaker Vos: Joint statement on Milwaukee Journal Sentinel investigation into veterans home at union grove

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“The treatment of our heroes at the Veterans Home at Union Grove is completely unacceptable. Actually, “completely unacceptable” doesn’t begin to scratch the surface of how disgusted we are with what is occurring. These veterans have earned far better than the treatment they’ve been getting.

“We know the staff at the home is overworked, and earnestly trying. This isn’t simply a money issue for more staff. This is the product of consistent mismanagement at Union Grove. The management and care at the home have fallen off a cliff since 2019. Each new manager seems to make the problem worse, not better.

“The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has known there were problems at Union Grove prior to COVID. They were offered federal help to assist with our veterans’ needs. The Evers Administration rejected the federal help. They are short staffed to this day, and Governor Evers kicked the Wisconsin National Guard out of the home six weeks early, saying they weren’t needed. It’s inexcusable, and a slap in the face to everyone that cares about the veterans in Union Grove.

“It’s obvious that something needs to change. You can’t just keep doing the same thing over and over and getting the same result. Something needs to change and needs to change now.

“Our veterans deserve better, our veterans have earned better. And we all expect better.”