

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Shae Sortwell

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The Department of Corrections Must Pay the Counties for Holding their Inmates

Madison – Representative Shae Sortwell (R-Gibson) released the following statement today congruent to the circulation of LRB 2082 - reimbursement to counties or tribes for costs relating to individuals held in a county or tribal facility awaiting transfer to a state prison and making an appropriation.

"It is unacceptable for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections to unload the burden of holding their inmates onto the county jails without reimbursing them."

"It is just costing Brown, Manitowoc, and Milwaukee counties roughly \$75,000, \$18,000, and \$300,000, respectively, a month to have their resources strained by the state. These irresponsible actions by the Governor and his Department of Corrections must be addressed and fixed immediately."

"I am joined in authorship of this bill with Senators Rob Stafsholt and Duey Stroebel and Representative Jesse James to hold the Department of Corrections accountable by authorizing them to pay the counties for their inmates as they await transfer. It is the least the agency could do for the counties doing their job."

Representative Sortwell is available for comment.

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