



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

REP. THOMAS A ALBERT

CHAIR

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 2, 2020      11:00 AM      Room 521, House Office Building

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections was called to order by the Chair, Representative Albert.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Albert, Slagh, VanSingel, Lightner, Maddock, Pagan, Sabo, Anthony, and Kennedy.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Slagh moved to adopt the meeting minutes from June 9, 2020. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Kyle Kaminski, Offender Success Administrator and Legislative Liaison, appeared before the subcommittee to give an update on department staffing levels, officer vacancy trends, and officer training academies. He also discussed the impact COVID-19 has had on staffing and the department's responses to the COVID-19 staffing impact.

Factors impacting staffing are the overall vacancy rate, temporary absences caused by COVID-19 protocols, temporary increases in staffing assignments due to COVID-19, and hiring, recruitment, and training limitations. The department is exempt from the statewide hiring freeze when it comes to hiring Corrections Officers and nurses.

The department hired 206 recruits in January and planned to conduct quarterly academies this year. The spring academy was cancelled due to COVID-19 and the summer academy had only 114 recruits due to COVID-19 restrictions. The department is utilizing staff from other areas of the department to assist with recruitment and to screen potential candidates for future training academies. Questions and answers followed.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Albert adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.

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Representative Thomas Albert, Chair

Robin Risko

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PROPOSED