



Michigan Corrections Organization

Service Employees International Union Local 526M

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Dear Senator,

My name is Mel Grieshaber, Executive Director of the Michigan Corrections Organization (MCO) representing correctional officers throughout the state of Michigan.

I am writing to voice MCO's opposition to HB 4664 which would remove a September, 2013 sunset date and allow retired correctional officers to work part time while collecting a pension. The bill was approved by the House last week and is now before the Senate Appropriations Committee .

It is our belief that implementation of this bill would unnecessarily threaten the safety and security of line staff by allowing former employees to work in institutions they may not be familiar with and interact with procedures/ prison populations they are unaccustomed to.

The bill also assumes a dramatic savings of \$10 million in FY'14, despite little to no interest this fiscal year, even though MDOC sent 1,000 letters to eligible retirees. In reality, only six officers have come back. The Department, and some in the House, indicate the belief that the current sunset (Sept 2013) deterred applicants. We don't believe that, and have heard from countless retirees that they have no intention of returning.

MCO asks that you please vote no.

Mel Grieshaber
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