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Governor Thompson's remarks  
Intensive Sanctions office  
Appleton 7/30/92  
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GOOD MORNING.

I AM PLEASED TO BE IN MENASHA TODAY TO TAKE PART IN OPENING THIS  
NEW INTENSIVE SANCTIONS OFFICE.

THIS OFFICE WILL BE THE NORTHERN REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR ONE  
OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ADVANCES IN CORRECTIONAL SERVICES IN  
WISCONSIN HISTORY.

INTENSIVE SANCTIONS IS WISCONSIN'S RESPONSE TO INCREASING CRIME  
AND PRISON POPULATIONS.

ITS GOAL IS TO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY AND SAVE PRISON BEDS.

I AM FED UP WITH CRIME AND CRIMINALS -- WE ALL ARE. AND, LIKE YOU, I  
AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE HIGH COSTS TO JAIL NON-VIOLENT PROPERTY  
OFFENDERS.

IT COSTS ABOUT \$20,000 A YEAR TO KEEP AN INMATE IN PRISON. IT WILL  
COST ABOUT \$8,500 A YER TO KEEP AN INMATE IN THE COMMUNITY UNDER  
INTENSIVE SANCTIONS SUPERVISION.

THE COST SAVINGS ARE SUBSTANTIAL -- BUT THERE ARE OTHER  
COMPELLING REASONS SUPPORTING INTENSIVE SUPERIVISION.

IN 1985, WISCONSIN'S PRISON POPULATION WAS 5,034 AND PROJECTED TO  
INCREASE TO 5,412 BY 1990. BUT BY JUNE 1990, THE PRISON POPULATION  
HAD REACHED 6,888.

TODAY, THERE ARE MORE THAN 8,000 INMATES IN WISCONSIN'S  
CORRECTION SYSTEM -- A SYSTEM DESIGNED TO HOLD 6,400. ACCORDING  
TO ESTIMATES THE PRISON POPULATION WILL TOP 11,000 BY THE END OF  
THE CENTURY -- EVEN WITH INTENSIVE SANCTIONS.

TO ADDRESS THESE STARTLING ESTIMATES, I CALLED FOR PREPARATION OF

A 10-YEAR CORRECTIONS MASTER PLAN -- BASED ON THAT PLAN, I FORWARDED SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

I CALLED FOR A BALANCED APPROACH THAT INCLUDED EXPANSION OF PRISON FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION. THE PROGRAM INCLUDED ELECTRONIC RESIDENTIAL CONFINEMENT AND TWO OTHER ESSENTIAL INTENSIVE SANCTIONS PROGRAMS -- COMMUNITY STRUCTURED SUPERVISION AND THE DRUG INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM. I ALSO RECOMMENDED INCREASED EMPHASIS ON DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT, MENTAL HEALTH AND SEX OFFENDER SERVICES.

JOINING ME IN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXPANDED PRISON AND INTERMEDIATE SANCTIONS WAS A PANEL APPOINTED BY ASSEMBLY SPEAKER WALTER KUNICKI.

AS A RESULT, THE LEGISLATURE AND I APPROVED THE CREATION OF A NEW SANCTIONS UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. ITS PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE CORRECTIONAL OPTIONS LESS COSTLY THAN PRISON, BUT MORE RESTRICTIVE AND PUNITIVE THAN THE CURRENT PROBATION AND PAROLE SERVICE.

IT WILL PROVIDE SERVICES FOR UP TO 1,920 NON-VIOLENT OFFENDERS BY THE END OF NEXT JUNE. AND I NOTE -- DRUG DEALERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM.

THE 76 INTENSIVE SANCTIONS AGENTS WILL HAVE CASELOADS OF 25 INMATES -- COMPARED TO AN AVERAGE OF 72 CLIENTS FOR PROBATION AND PAROLE AGENTS.

THE PROGRAM REQUIRES:

- CONFINEMENT. ALL INMATES MUST SERVE THE FIRST 25 PERCENT OF THEIR SENTENCE LOCKED UP IN A PRISON, JAIL OR SOME OTHER DETENTION FACILITY.

- MONITORING. THE SECOND PHASE REQUIRES ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AND SCHOOL, WORK OR TREATMENT IN ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG ABUSE PROGRAMS. THERE ARE AT LEAST 18 FACE-TO-FACE PROGRAM CONTACTS AS WELL AS FOUR URINE SCREENINGS PER MONTH.

THE NEXT PHASE OF THE PROGRAM LASTS AT LEAST THREE MONTHS. ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IS AN OPTION; BUT A CURFEW, 10 FACE-TO-FACE PROGRAM CONTACTS AND TWO DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTS PER MONTH ARE REQUIRED.

IN THE FINAL PHASE, FACE-TO-FACE CONTACTS CONTINUE. THE INTENSIVE SANCTIONS AGENT DETERMINES WHETHER A CURFEW AND DRUG SCREENING IS REQUIRED

INTENSIVE SANCTIONS INMATES CAN BE REQUIRED TO PERFORM COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PROVIDE RESTITUTION FOR THEIR CRIME AS PART OF THEIR REHABILITATION.

THIS IS A TOUGH REGIMEN. ANY CRIMINAL ACTIVITY OR VIOLATION OF THE INTENSIVE SANCTIONS RULES CAN RESULT IN A SWIFT TRIP TO THE MOST APPROPRIATE PRISON. MORE THAN LIKELY, THERE WILL BE ROOM TO ACCOMMODATE THE FAILURES.

LAST SEPTEMBER, THE BUILDING COMMISSION APPROVED MY \$145 MILLION PLAN TO PROVIDE INCREASED PRISON CAPACITY -- 1,684 MORE BEDS IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

INTENSIVE SANCTIONS BECAME AVAILABLE TO JUDGES THROUGHOUT WISCONSIN ON JULY 1. THIS GIVES THE COURT A RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES IN SENTENCING NEVER AVAILABLE TO THEM BEFORE.

THE PROGRAM IS A REASONED RESPONSE TO PRISON OVERCROWING AND TO THE BURDENSOME COSTS OF INCARCERATION. AT THE SAME TIME, IT HELPS PROVIDE PUBLIC PROTECTION WITH NEW AND TOUGH RESTRICTIONS AND PUNISHMENT FOR THESE NON-VIOLENT INMATES.

I AM VERY PROUD OF THE INTENSIVE SANCTIONS PROGRAM AND ALL OF THOSE WHO WORKED WITH ME TO BRING IT ABOUT.

I KNOW THAT THE PEOPLE OF MENASHA JOIN WITH ME AND THE REST OF WISCONSIN IN WISHING THE STAFF OF THE DIVISION OF INTENSIVE SANCTIONS WELL.