

Latoya Hughes, Acting Director Illinois Department of Corrections 1301 Concordia Court P.O. Box 19277 Springfield, IL 62794-9277

October 17, 2024

Dear Director Hughes,

I am writing on behalf of the correctional employees and residents of Sheridan Correctional Center, which reside within my Senate District, over the growing concerns regarding reports involving potential exposure to drugs and other unknown substances within their facility.

I am echoing previous calls for the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) to temporarily suspend the processing of all nonlegal mail until proper safety protocols are implemented. This is not a decision to be taken lightly, but the health and well-being of our correctional officers, as well as the individuals in the state's care, must be our top priority.

I have been contacted by constituents and informed that officers in my district recently experienced a similar incident to the ones that have been reported throughout the state. As this is not an isolated event, continued inaction is unacceptable.

I urge you to take this matter seriously and implement the suspension of nonlegal mail processing until a more permanent solution is put into place. I look forward to your response and to working with you to ensure the safety of everyone in our state's correctional facilities.

Sincerely,

Sue Rezin Deputy Republican Leader Illinois Senate, 38th District