

Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement and General Services on 2024-12-10 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING
This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center:
<https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calen>
Meeting Time: 12-10-24 09:00

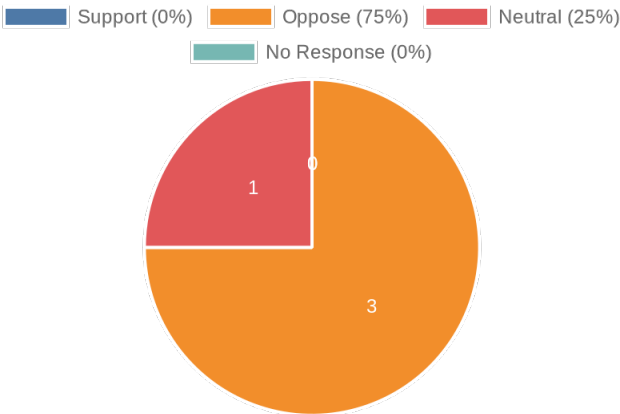
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement and General Services on 2024-12-10 9:00 AM - HYBRID MEETING This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calen	12-10-24 09:00	29	4	0	3	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



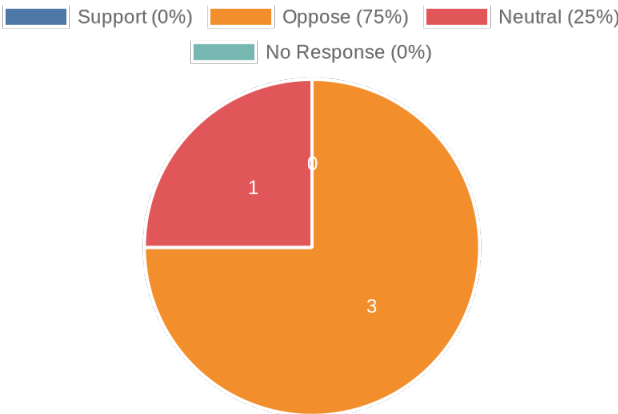
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Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
4 24-877 2024 Wellpath Amendment (Referred to the Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General Services FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY per Section 59.52(31)(d), Wisconsin State Statutes; Referred to the Committee on Finance)	2	0	2	0
5 24-935 Joint Informational report from CRC and MCSO regarding Wellpath contracted Medical Services. (Considered by the Committees on Audit; and Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General Services) (INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)	2	0	1	1

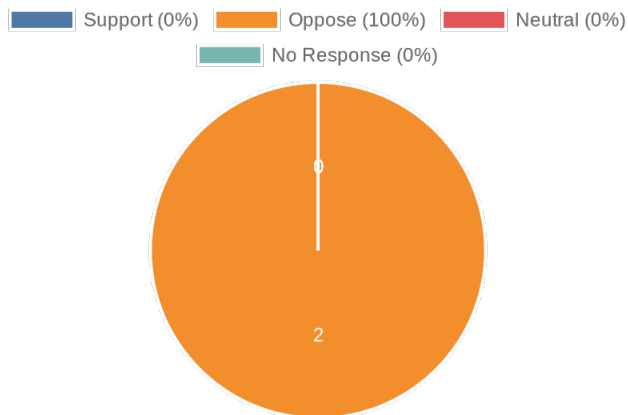
Sentiments for All Agenda Items

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Overall Sentiment



Overall Sentiment



Lauryn Cross

Location:

Submitted At: 9:26am 12-10-24

WellPath has proven to be an inadequate healthcare provider for our community, and it is high time the county reconsiders its partnership with this company. Over the past several years, numerous complaints have surfaced regarding WellPath's inability to deliver timely and quality healthcare services to those who need it most. Patients routinely report long wait times for care, inadequate follow-up on medical concerns, and substandard treatment that jeopardizes their health. This failure to meet basic healthcare standards not only undermines the well-being of individuals but also places unnecessary strain on the local healthcare system.

One of the most concerning issues with WellPath is their apparent disregard for the specific needs of vulnerable populations, including those in correctional facilities or underserved communities. The company's focus on cost-cutting and efficiency has led to understaffing, poor communication between medical staff and patients, and a lack of continuity in care. These factors contribute to an environment where patients' medical concerns are dismissed or neglected altogether.

In addition to the operational issues, WellPath's track record with patient outcomes is troubling. There have been multiple incidents where preventable health crises have escalated due to delays in diagnosis or inadequate treatment plans. This is not just an inconvenience—it is a matter of life and death for those who rely on the healthcare system to ensure their well-being.

Those in the milwaukee county jail deserve a healthcare provider that values patient care and upholds high medical standards. It is clear that WellPath has failed to meet these expectations, and the time has come for the county to find a more reliable and compassionate healthcare partner. Changing providers is not just a necessity; it is an ethical imperative to ensure the health and safety of all individuals under county care.

MARLENE MUSCHELEWICZ

Location:
Submitted At: 8:36am 12-10-24

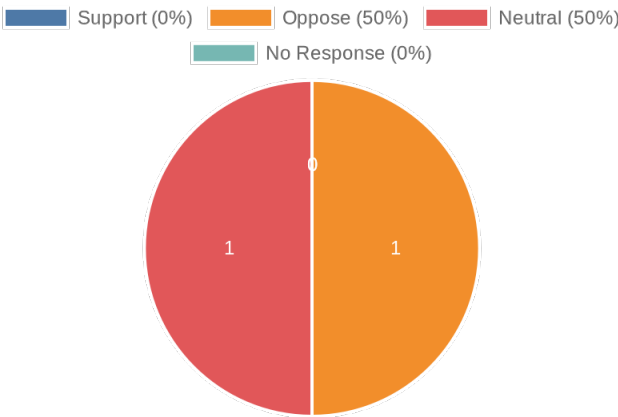
There have clearly been ongoing issues with Wellpath, here in Milwaukee and throughout the country. One article about their recent bankruptcy notes that "according to a filing in one lawsuit brought by the family of someone who died in Ventura County Jail in 2022, Wellpath was sued more than 1,400 times in federal courts between 2013 and 2023." It's of course notable as well that this bankruptcy could delay any current and ongoing legal action against them. Another article notes that "three federal judges in Oregon and Washington have ruled against Wellpath after company leaders intentionally destroyed emails they were ordered to preserve for trial." The recent audit report noted time and time again a lack of transparency and accountability. Continuing to work with Wellpath, and continuing to offer increased funding, is only going to contribute to a continuation of these problems, as evading accountability seems to be quite intentional within this company. Alternate healthcare providers must be considered. Transparency and accountability, in the process of identifying and implementing an appropriate alternative, are of course of the utmost importance. Those incarcerated in Milwaukee jails have no say in their access to healthcare. This decision has direct and significant impact on their health, safety, and wellbeing. Continuing to work with and increase funding to Wellpath without exploring other options shows a clear disregard for the rights and dignity of those in custody, including those who have already died in custody in Wellpath's care. It's well past time to consider other options.

<https://www.opb.org/article/2024/11/12/jail-health-care-goliath-wellpath-files-for-bankruptcy/>

<https://www.vcstar.com/story/news/local/2024/11/14/wellpath-ventura-county-jail-health-care-provider-files-bankruptcy/76265799007/>

Agenda Item: eComments for 5 24-935 Joint Informational report from CRC and MCSO regarding Wellpath contracted Medical Services. (Considered by the Committees on Audit; and Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General Services)
(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Overall Sentiment



Eric Flores

Location:
Submitted At: 9:17am 12-10-24

After hearing the findings of the audit, which was carried out with zero community input, there is a plethora of work that needs to be done with the Milwaukee County Jail and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office.

We have learned that the correctional officers are haphazardly trained and that the MCJ handles mental health issues poorly. With the issues of mental health in the MCJ, it specifically brings an even greater question of who will actually be handling these issues as Wellpath will soon be out of the picture. We deserve so much better in Milwaukee County and these issues won't be resolved unless we hold the Sheriff's Department accountable. The solutions to these problems can't just be resolved by "more staffing" or increasing their budget as we have seen the MSCO burn our tax dollars with their subpar performance.

We at the Milwaukee Alliance demand that there be a town hall involving the County Board, the Sheriff, and the community so the MCSO can be held accountable for their negligence and receive (legitimate) updates on the corrective strategies provided by Creative Corrections' audit. We also demand that the County adopt a policy similar to the City's SOP 575 (footage release for critical incidents) as the best way to start building any sort of trust is transparency.

Casey Serrano

Location:

Submitted At: 9:02am 12-10-24

Hello my name is Casey Serrano, and I am with the Milwaukee Alliance. It is disgraceful that the MCSO and Creative Corrections believe that there are great mental health supports for people in the jail while they witnessed a suicide attempt mid-audit. We need a real community townhall immediately where people can voice their concerns about the jail, and give the Sheriff real corrective strategies. Several people lost their lives in the jail to negligence and suicide in an 18 month period, and dozens more made suicide attempts. Community Input now!