

Lisa Savage
Solon

Please vote ought to pass on LD 1668. There are several good arguments for closing Long Creek permanently and reinvesting its funding in community programs to support at-risk youth. Many incarcerated youth are victims of abuse, have grown up in poverty, or both. Decades of research has shown that incarceration is ineffective at getting at-risk kids back on track. Mental health care, educational support, job training, and mentoring are all approaches with better outcomes. Punishment is not a productive approach for youthful offenders and is particularly useless if the young person suffers from a substance use disorder.

Please vote ought to pass on LD 1668.