



**STATE OF INDIANA
Department of Correction**

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Michael R. Pence
Governor

Bruce Lemmon
Commissioner

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**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION CLOSING HENRYVILLE
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

Indianapolis – Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Commissioner Bruce Lemmon today announced that the agency will close its Henryville Correctional Facility in Clark County by July 1, 2016.

The IDOC has been monitoring the reduction of its adult offender population, following the passage of House Enrolled Act 1006-2014 and House Enrolled Act 1006-2015, which called for Level 6 felons (formerly Class D felons) to be restricted from state prisons beginning January 1, 2016. From July 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016, the number of offenders in the state prison system has declined from 27,246 to 26,142, a decrease of 4 percent. These reductions are only where minimum security offenders are housed; current prison population trends are not decreasing in the medium and maximum correctional settings.

The closure will affect 140 offenders and 36 staff members. Offenders will be moved to Branchville or Edinburgh correctional facilities and all employees will be offered vacant positions at the neighboring correctional facilities in Edinburgh, Branchville and Madison.

“In order to realize significant cost savings, facilities like Henryville Correctional Facility with fixed costs including physical plant operation, maintenance, and other related overhead need to be closed,” said Commissioner Lemmon. “The IDOC has already begun to help ensure our staff members affected by the closure are offered positions at other nearby facilities or state agencies.”

In an effort to save taxpayer money and more efficiently utilize allocated funds, the IDOC began a review of its facilities earlier this year to determine if IDOC could consolidate resources. Because of its close proximity to similarly organized facilities (Branchville Correctional Facility,

Edinburgh Correctional Facility and Madison Correctional Facility), Henryville Correctional Facility could more easily be absorbed into these surrounding facilities with no loss of offender security. Henryville Correctional Facility is one of three minimum-security facilities in the state. The others, Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility and Edinburgh Correctional Facility, will remain open.

When Level 6 offenders are moved to a county jail instead of being housed in an IDOC prison, IDOC is required to pay the county \$35 per day per offender. Closing this prison helps save taxpayer money, fills IDOC operational needs elsewhere, and, once potential HEA 1006 cost savings are estimated next March, could translate into additional funds to local governments.

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