



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Rick Scott, Governor

Wansley Walters, Secretary

SB 700- Department of Juvenile Justice

- This the Department of Juvenile Justice’s general revision bill to Chapter 985, F.S. which governs juvenile justice.
 - It has been over a decade since the juvenile justice statutes have seen a comprehensive revision.
 - This proposal simply codifies best practices and themes that DJJ has undertaken in recent years
 - The department has worked tirelessly with key stakeholder groups and taken input from across the state to put forward what we think is a collaborative and comprehensive piece of legislation that will move the juvenile justice system forward. It reflects much of the good work the DJJ has been doing to improve delinquency statistics through their Roadmap to System Excellence and other related reforms.
- Some of the more significant things it does are:
 - *Cleans up statutes by removing duplicative references to dependency covered under chapter 984, F.S.*
 - *Cleans up “Detention” definition to reflect current practice of “secure” and “nonsecure” detention.*
 - *Creates individual statute to place importance on prevention services*
 - *Requires victim notification for delinquents accused of certain crimes who escape or are released from a detention or residential facility*
 - *Follows grand jury recommendations to create criminal statute for neglect of youth of any age while in DJJ custody.*
 - *Expands transition to adulthood eligibility to allow DJJ to provide transition services to more youth exiting residential programs*
 - *Allows for youth who have multiple arrests in a short time period to be held in secure detention (regardless of DRAI-risk assessment score)*
 - *Places accountability and reporting requirements on DJJ and contract providers*
 - *Creates permissive language for "evening reporting centers" to allow for additional services and oversight over youth in nonsecure detention.*
 - *Clarifies age jurisdiction of the courts*

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The mission of the Department of Juvenile Justice is to increase public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention, and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth.