

House Bill No. 1743

An act relating to the elimination of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board; repealing s. 985.401, F.S., which created the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board; amending ss. 20.316, 216.136, 985.227, 985.315, 985.317, and 985.404, F.S., to remove references to the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 985.401, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 20.316, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.316 Department of Juvenile Justice.—There is created a Department of Juvenile Justice.

(4) INFORMATION SYSTEMS.—

(d) The management information system shall, at a minimum:

1. Facilitate case management of juveniles referred to or placed in the department's custody.

2. Provide timely access to current data and computing capacity to support ~~the outcome evaluation activities of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board as provided in s. 985.401,~~ legislative oversight, the Juvenile Justice Estimating Conference, and other research.

3. Provide automated support to the quality assurance and program review functions.

4. Provide automated support to the contract management process.

5. Provide automated support to the facility operations management process.

6. Provide automated administrative support to increase efficiency, provide the capability of tracking expenditures of funds by the department or contracted service providers that are eligible for federal reimbursement, and reduce forms and paperwork.

7. Facilitate connectivity, access, and utilization of information among various state agencies, and other state, federal, local, and private agencies, organizations, and institutions.

8. Provide electronic public access to juvenile justice information, which is not otherwise made confidential by law or exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1).

9. Provide a system for the training of information system users and user groups.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 216.136, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and principals.—

(8) JUVENILE JUSTICE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE.—

(b) Principals.—The Executive Office of the Governor, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and professional staff who have forecasting expertise from the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children and Family Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program Offices, the Department of Law Enforcement, the Senate Appropriations Committee staff, the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee staff, or their designees, are the principals of the Juvenile Justice Estimating Conference. The responsibility of presiding over sessions of the conference shall be rotated among the principals. To facilitate policy and legislative recommendations, the conference may call upon ~~professional staff of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board~~ and appropriate legislative staff.

Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 985.227, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.227 Prosecution of juveniles as adults by the direct filing of an information in the criminal division of the circuit court; discretionary criteria; mandatory criteria.—

(4) DIRECT-FILE POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.—Each state attorney shall develop written policies and guidelines to govern determinations for filing an information on a juvenile, to be submitted to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, ~~and the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board~~ not later than January 1 of each year.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 985.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.315 Educational/technical and vocational work-related programs.—

(4)

(b) Evaluations of juvenile educational/technical and vocational work-related programs shall be conducted according to the following guidelines:

1. Systematic evaluations and quality assurance monitoring shall be implemented, in accordance with ~~s. ss. 985.401(4) and 985.412(1)~~, to determine whether the programs are related to successful postrelease adjustments.

2. Operations and policies of the programs shall be reevaluated to determine if they are consistent with their primary objectives.

Section 6. Subsection (5) of section 985.317, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

## 985.317 Literacy programs for juvenile offenders.—

(5) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—~~The Juvenile Justice Advisory Board shall evaluate the literacy program outcomes as part of its annual evaluation of program outcomes under s. 985.401.~~ The department, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall develop and implement an evaluation of the literacy program in order to determine the impact of the programs on recidivism. The department shall submit an annual report on the implementation and progress of the programs to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1 of each year.

Section 7. Subsection (11) of section 985.404, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

## 985.404 Administering the juvenile justice continuum.—

(11)(a) The Department of Juvenile Justice, in consultation with ~~the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board,~~ the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and contract service providers, shall develop a cost-effectiveness model and apply the model to each commitment program. Program recommitment rates shall be a component of the model. The cost-effectiveness model shall compare program costs to client outcomes and program outputs. It is the intent of the Legislature that continual development efforts take place to improve the validity and reliability of the cost-effectiveness model and to integrate the standard methodology developed under s. 985.401(4) for interpreting program outcome evaluations.

(b) The department shall rank commitment programs based on the cost-effectiveness model and shall submit a report to the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of each house of the Legislature by December 31 of each year.

(c) ~~Based on reports of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board on client outcomes and program outputs and on~~ the department's most recent cost-effectiveness rankings, the department may terminate a program operated by the department or a provider if the program has failed to achieve a minimum threshold of program effectiveness. This paragraph does not preclude the department from terminating a contract as provided under s. 985.412 or as otherwise provided by law or contract, and does not limit the department's authority to enter into or terminate a contract.

(d) In collaboration with ~~the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board,~~ the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and contract service providers, the department shall develop a work plan to refine the cost-effectiveness model so that the model is consistent with the performance-based program budgeting measures approved by the Legislature to the extent the department deems appropriate. The department shall notify the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability of any meetings to refine the model.

(e) Contingent upon specific appropriation, the department, in consultation with ~~the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board,~~ the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and contract service providers, shall:

1. Construct a profile of each commitment program that uses the results of the quality assurance report required by s. 985.412, ~~the outcome evaluation report compiled by the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board under s. 985.401,~~ the cost-effectiveness report required in this subsection, and other reports available to the department.
2. Target, for a more comprehensive evaluation, any commitment program that has achieved consistently high, low, or disparate ratings in the reports required under subparagraph 1.
3. Identify the essential factors that contribute to the high, low, or disparate program ratings.
4. Use the results of these evaluations in developing or refining juvenile justice programs or program models, client outcomes and program outputs, provider contracts, quality assurance standards, and the cost-effectiveness model.

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Approved by the Governor June 7, 2001.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 7, 2001.