

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 177

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

JUVENILES: Designates the Institute for Public Health and Justice as the primary research entity and advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal justice system and youth with behavioral needs

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 20 of Title 24 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised
3 of R.S. 24:981 and 982, relative to the Institute for Public Health and Justice; to
4 designate the Institute for Public Health and Justice as the primary researcher for and
5 advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal justice system
6 and youth with behavioral health needs; to establish the duties of the Institute for
7 Public Health and Justice; to authorize the Institute for Public Health and Justice to
8 work with institutions of higher learning; to authorize the Institute for Public Health
9 and Justice to seek, accept, and expend monies from any source; and to provide for
10 related matters.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. Chapter 20 of Title 24 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
13 comprised of R.S. 24:981 and 982, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 CHAPTER 20. INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND JUSTICE

15 §981. Authority; general purpose; duties

16 A. The Institute for Public Health and Justice, organized under authority of
17 the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, is hereby
18 designated to be the primary researcher for and advisor to the legislature on matters

1 related to youth in the criminal justice system and youth with behavioral health
2 needs.

3 B. The Institute for Public Health and Justice shall act at the direction of the
4 speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate, in
5 consultation with the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission.

6 C.(1) The Institute for Public Health and Justice shall serve as a statewide
7 juvenile justice data repository to provide the legislature and the Juvenile Justice
8 Reform Act Implementation Commission with reliable and current information.

9 (2) The Institute for Public Health and Justice shall serve as a resource for
10 best practices in the juvenile justice field, including promising local models of
11 juvenile justice reform and national best practices models.

12 (3) The Institute for Public Health and Justice shall provide technical
13 assistance to the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission, monitor
14 the implementation of juvenile justice reform, and prepare annual reports to be
15 submitted to the legislature and the governor.

16 D. The Institute for Public Health and Justice may work in partnership with
17 the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and with other institutions of higher learning
18 to fulfill the purposes of this Chapter.

19 §982. Funding

20 To achieve the purposes of this Chapter, the Institute for Public Health and
21 Justice may seek, accept, and expend monies from any source, including donations,
22 state appropriations, and federal grants and may seek, accept, and use services from
23 individuals, corporations, and governmental entities.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Leger

HB No. 177

Abstract: Designates the Institute for Public Health and Justice as the primary researcher for and advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal justice system and youth with behavioral health needs.

Proposed law designates the Institute for Public Health and Justice (institute), organized under authority of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, as the primary researcher for and advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal justice system and youth with behavioral health needs.

Proposed law requires the institute to act at the direction of the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate, in consultation with the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission (commission).

Proposed law provides that the institute shall serve as all of the following:

- (1) A statewide juvenile justice data repository to provide the legislature and the commission with reliable and current information.
- (2) A resource for best practices in the juvenile justice field, including promising local models of juvenile justice reform and national best practices models.

Proposed law provides that the institute shall render technical assistance to the commission, monitor the implementation of juvenile justice reform, and prepare annual reports to be submitted to the legislature and the governor.

Proposed law authorizes the institute to work in partnership with the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and with other institutions of higher learning to fulfill the purposes of proposed law.

Proposed law authorizes the institute to seek, accept, and expend monies from any source, including donations, state appropriations, and federal grants and to seek, accept, and use services from individuals, corporations, and governmental entities.

(Adds R.S. 24:981 and 982)