
DIGEST

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Leger

HB No. 177

Abstract: Designates the Institute for Public Health and Justice as an 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 LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, as an 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 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, review 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 La. at Lafayette and with other institutions of higher learning to fulfill the purposes of proposed law.

Proposed law authorizes the institute to work in partnership with DPS&C, youth services, office of juvenile justice, to fulfill the purposes of proposed law. Information may be provided on a per project basis and any release of data by the office of juvenile justice is subject to approval by the deputy secretary for youth services. The institute is required to maintain the confidentiality of legally protected juvenile information and is prohibited from using any information shared pursuant to proposed law for any proprietary purpose.

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)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Made technical corrections.
2. Deleted the designation of the institute as the primary research entity.
3. Deleted the requirement that the institute serve as a statewide juvenile justice data repository.
4. Changed the requirement that the institute monitor the implementation of juvenile justice reform to a requirement that the institute review the implementation of juvenile justice reform.
5. Authorized the institute to work in partnership with DPS&C, youth services, office of juvenile justice. Authorizes information to be provided on a per project basis subject to approval by the deputy secretary for youth services. Requires the institute to maintain the confidentiality of legally protected juvenile information and prohibits the institute from using any shared information for any proprietary purpose.