

ACT No. 3

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.

AN ACT

To enact Chapter 20 of Title 24 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 24:981 and 982, relative to the Institute for Public Health and Justice; to designate the Institute for Public Health and Justice an advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal justice system and youth with behavioral health needs; to establish the duties of the Institute for Public Health and Justice; to authorize the Institute for Public Health and Justice to work with institutions of higher learning; to authorize the Institute for Public Health and Justice to work in partnership with the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, youth services, office of juvenile justice; to provide for use of the data shared by the office of juvenile justice; to authorize the Institute for Public Health and Justice to seek, accept, and expend monies from any source; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

CHAPTER 20. INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND JUSTICE

§981. Authority; general purpose; duties

A. The Institute for Public Health and Justice, organized under authority of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, is hereby

1 designated as an advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal
2 justice system and youth with behavioral health 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 resource for
7 best practices in the juvenile justice field, including promising local models of
8 juvenile justice reform and national best practices models.

9 (2) The Institute for Public Health and Justice shall provide technical
10 assistance to the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission, review
11 the implementation of juvenile justice reform, and prepare annual reports to be
12 submitted to the legislature and the governor.

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

16 E. The Institute for Public Health and Justice may work in partnership with
17 the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, youth services, office of juvenile
18 justice, to fulfill the purposes of this Chapter. Any release of data by the office of
19 juvenile justice shall be subject to approval by the deputy secretary for youth
20 services. Information may be provided on a per project basis, and the Institute for
21 Public Health and Justice shall maintain the confidentiality of legally protected
22 juvenile information. The Institute for Public Health and Justice shall not use any
23 information shared pursuant to this Subsection for any proprietary purpose.

1 §982. Funding

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____