

SENATE BILL NO. 107

BY SENATORS WARD AND BROOME AND REPRESENTATIVES ARMES, WESLEY BISHOP, BROSSETT, BURRELL, COX, HONORE, HUNTER, JAMES, JEFFERSON, TERRY LANDRY, MORENO, PIERRE, PRICE, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, ALFRED WILLIAMS AND PATRICK WILLIAMS

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

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AN ACT

To enact Chapter 59-A of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 46:2758 through 2758.2, relative to the juvenile justice system and at-risk youths; to provide relative to development of an integrated case management planning system for at-risk youths; to provide for the purposes of such system and the duties and responsibilities of certain entities; to establish certain timelines; to provide terms and conditions; to provide for legislative findings; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 59-A of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 46:2758 through 2758.2, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2758. Short Title

This Part shall be known and may be cited as the "Improved Outcomes for At-Risk Youths Act".

§2758.1. Legislative findings

A. The legislature finds that:

(1) A significant number of youths involved in the juvenile justice system are in need of mental health services or have experienced involvement in the child welfare system. These youths are often referred to as "crossover youths" as they receive services from multiple agencies.

(2) Research has shown that a single, targeted case management system can better track "crossover youths" from system to system, target services to

1 those youths, and assist in lowering recidivism, out-of-home placements, and
2 potential adult incarceration.

3 (3) In 2011, Louisiana created the Coordinated System of Care to better
4 leverage the monies flowing into juvenile mental health services for youths with
5 severe disturbances. Opportunities exist and should be pursued for greater
6 collaboration and sharing of information across all systems to benefit such
7 youths.

8 (4) A complete continuum of care for at-risk youths will reduce the
9 number of youths who enter into the juvenile and criminal justice systems,
10 improve access to treatment and rehabilitative services for youths currently
11 involved in the system, and reduce recidivism by:

12 (a) Improving coordination and access to programs focusing on
13 prevention and early intervention.

14 (b) Improving access to treatment, rehabilitation, and educational
15 services to youths currently involved in multiple systems in Louisiana.

16 (c) Developing a mechanism for youths exiting the juvenile justice and
17 child welfare systems to obtain the educational and workforce training
18 necessary to ensure that such youths exit as self-sufficient, productive young
19 adults who are less likely to be reliant on social services or enter the adult
20 correctional system.

21 B. A comprehensive and integrated delivery system of case management
22 for at-risk youths should be developed to ensure that every at-risk youth has
23 access to the appropriate resources to become a self-sufficient and productive
24 adult.

25 §2758.2. Integrated case management planning system; creation; membership;
26 duties and responsibilities

27 A. The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and
28 Corrections, Youth Services, Office of Juvenile Justice, and the secretary of the
29 Department of Children and Family Services shall evaluate programs to be
30 included in the Integrated Case Management System.

1 **B. The programs and services to be evaluated for inclusion in the system**
2 **shall include but are not limited to:**

3 **(1) Truancy Assessment and Service Centers.**

4 **(2) Families in Need of Services.**

5 **(3) The Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership, including the**
6 **Coordinated System of Care.**

7 **(4) Child welfare programs.**

8 **(5) Education and workforce training programs.**

9 **(6) Juvenile probation and parole services.**

10 **(7) Non-secure and secure out-of-home placements.**

11 **(8) Any other program or service identified for inclusion.**

12 **C. In order to facilitate the development of a complete continuum of**
13 **care for at-risk youths the departments shall:**

14 **(1) Develop an outline for the creation of and transition to an integrated**
15 **case management system focusing on the behavioral health, rehabilitative, and**
16 **educational needs of youths who are at-risk for involvement, currently involved**
17 **or exiting the juvenile justice and child welfare system.**

18 **(2) Identify the prevalence of youths served by multiple systems.**

19 **(3) Identify opportunities to more efficiently and effectively deliver**
20 **programs and services to at-risk youths across all systems of care focusing on:**

21 **(a) Prevention.**

22 **(b) Early intervention.**

23 **(c) Treatment and rehabilitation.**

24 **(d) Continuity of education and workforce training.**

25 **(e) Re-introduction into the community.**

26 **(4) Develop mechanisms to leverage available state and federal funds for**
27 **the purposes of this Chapter.**

28 **(5) Establish a timeline for the creation and implementation of the**
29 **integrated case management system providing for such system to be fully**
30 **operational no later than July 1, 2015.**

1 D. The departments shall submit their recommendations formulated by
2 the impacted agencies to the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation
3 Commission for review and comment by the commission.

4 E. Not later than thirty calendar days prior to the convening of the 2014
5 regular session of the legislature, the departments shall jointly submit a
6 summary report to the legislature discussing actions taken pursuant to this
7 Chapter. Such report shall include but not be limited to any recommendations
8 for changes in laws or administrative regulations or policies necessary for
9 proper implementation of the integrated case management system.

10 F. Not later than July 1, 2014, the departments shall jointly submit a
11 written report to the legislature outlining the timelines and process by which
12 implementation of an integrated case management system for at-risk youths
13 shall be completed and the system fully operational no later than July 1, 2015.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____