



**Performance Note**  
**HB0239S01 - Juvenile Justice**  
**Amendments**  
Sponsor: Rep. Snow, V. Lowry



Performance Note Report

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Agency: Department of Human Services - Division of Juvenile Justice Services

Funding For:

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Public Benefit:

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Purpose: H.B. 239 incorporates recommendations made by the Utah Juvenile Justice Working Group commissioned by Governor Herbert to examine Utah's Juvenile Justice continuum of services and make recommendations, based on research, for improvements to the continuum. Items in the bill that directly impact the Division of Juvenile Justice Services include: \*The replacement of residential Observation and Assessment centers with non-residential services \*The replacement of residential work camps with non-residential services \*The establishment of presumptive length-of-stay guidelines for youth committed to division custody for community placement and secure care \*The establishment of new custody limitations for youth who may be committed to division custody for community placement and secure care \*The implementation of performance-based contracting with incentives to providers for the implementation of juvenile justice, evidence-based programs and premium rates for youth who receive evidence-based dosage of treatment and who successfully complete programs within three months \*The development of a risk assessment tool for admission to detention or alternatives to detention \*The expansion of home detention services, youth services, receiving centers, and early intervention services to all court districts in the state \*The establishment of non-residential community-based programs and independent living programs

Services: The Division of Juvenile Justice Services is not requesting a funding increase. Those portions of the bill that will result in agency savings will be reallocated to meet the new requirements of the bill and other recommendations of the Working Group. Specific services include: \*Expand Youth Services/ Receiving Centers and early intervention services to areas of the state where they are not currently available \*Expand home detention services and diversion to detention services to all judicial districts in the state \*Development of a risk assessment tool for detention admission or referral to alternatives to detention \*Implementation of performance-based contracting \*Implementation of in-home Observation and Assessment services \*Maximizing the effectiveness of supervision and delivery of evidence-based programs such as aftercare, day treatment, and community-based services

Expected Outcome: The expectation is that by intervening earlier and reducing out-of-home placements as youth first begin exhibiting delinquent behavior, that fewer youth will further penetrate the system reducing the need for expensive, out-of-home residential placements. The public will benefit not only by eventual cost savings to taxpayers, but by reduced criminal activity.

Implementations and Resources: Of necessity, the bill will be implemented in stages over a period of several years. The closing of residential Observation and Assessment and work camp programs will free up the funds necessary to implement the identified in-home and day treatment services to be offered by the division and the development of a detention risk assessment tool. Other savings resulting from reductions in community placement, detention populations, and secure care populations will occur over time as proposed custody limitations and presumptive length-of-stay guidelines are implemented throughout the entire juvenile justice system. When those resources become available, services such as evidence-based aftercare, day treatment, and community-based services can be implemented. Performance-based contracting will be the last of the services to be implemented. Again, the Division of Juvenile Justice Services is not asking for additional funds to implement these services, but will reallocate savings as a result of HB 239 to fund the outcomes.

How: By providing evidence-based interventions as youth first begin committing delinquent offenses and by not housing all youth in congregate care where risk issues can be transferred, youth and their families will be able to develop the skills necessary to prevent penetration further into the juvenile justice continuum.

## Performance Measures

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### Goal

Title: Reduction in youth removed from their homes results in better youth outcomes and reduced variable costs for detentions Title: The number of youth in residential detention

Description: The Division of Juvenile Justice Services operates eleven locked detention facilities across the state. HB 239 would reduce the number of youth that qualify for admission to detention. The baseline number represents the number of different youth served in locked detention in FY 2016. In FY 2016 there were 6,740 admissions to locked detention comprised of 3,112 different youth. The average nightly bed count was 150.8 youth with an average length of stay per admission of 8.2 days. The target represents a 10% reduction each year, with a 34% overall reduction by FY 2021.

Collection Method: Admissions to detention are entered in the Courts & Agencies' Record Exchange (CARE) information system which is Utah's juvenile justice database. Reports will collect this information from that database.