



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6147

January Session, 2001

AN ACT CONCERNING GENDER SPECIFIC SERVICES AND PROGRAMS FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 17a-6 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (l) Provide or arrange for the provision of suitable education for
4 every child under [his] the commissioner's supervision, either in public
5 schools, special educational programs, private schools, educational
6 programs within the institutions or facilities under [his] the
7 commissioner's jurisdiction, or work and training programs otherwise
8 provided by law and assure that programs for juvenile offenders are
9 gender specific in that they comprehensively address the unique needs
10 of a targeted gender group and promote development of positive
11 gender identities during the formative years of the gender group. The
12 suitability of educational programs provided by the commissioner
13 shall be subject to review by the Department of Education.

14 Sec. 2. Section 46b-121h of the general statutes is repealed and the
15 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

16 It is the intent of the General Assembly that the juvenile justice
17 system provide individualized supervision, care, accountability and
18 treatment in a manner consistent with public safety to those juveniles
19 who violate the law. The juvenile justice system shall also promote

20 prevention efforts through the support of programs and services
21 designed to meet the needs of juveniles charged with the commission
22 of a delinquent act. The goals of the juvenile justice system shall be to:

23 (1) Hold juveniles accountable for their unlawful behavior;

24 (2) Provide secure and therapeutic confinement to those juveniles
25 who present a danger to the community;

26 (3) Adequately protect the community and juveniles;

27 (4) Provide programs and services that are community-based and
28 are provided in close proximity to the juvenile's community;

29 (5) Retain and support juveniles within their homes whenever
30 possible and appropriate;

31 (6) Base probation treatment planning upon individual case
32 management plans;

33 (7) Include the juvenile's family in the case management plan;

34 (8) Provide supervision and service coordination where appropriate
35 and implement and monitor the case management plan in order to
36 discourage reoffending;

37 (9) Provide follow-up and nonresidential postrelease services to
38 juveniles who are returned to their families or communities;

39 (10) Promote the development and implementation of community-
40 based programs including, but not limited to, mental health service,
41 designed to prevent unlawful behavior and to effectively minimize the
42 depth and duration of the juvenile's involvement in the juvenile justice
43 system; and

44 (11) Create and maintain programs for juvenile offenders that are
45 gender specific in that they comprehensively address the unique needs
46 of a targeted gender group and promote development of positive
47 gender identities during the formative years of the gender group.

48 Sec. 3. Section 46b-121k of the general statutes is repealed and the
49 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

50 (a) The Office of Alternative Sanctions shall be charged with the
51 duty of developing constructive programs for the prevention and
52 reduction of delinquency and crime among juvenile offenders. To that
53 end, the director shall cooperate with other agencies to encourage the
54 establishment of new programs and to provide a continuum of
55 services for juvenile offenders who do not require secure placement.
56 The programs shall be tailored to the type of juvenile including the
57 juvenile's offense history, age, gender, mental health and chemical
58 dependency problem, and other characteristics. The Office of
59 Alternative Sanctions shall develop programs that provide: (1)
60 Intensive general educational programs, with an individual
61 educational plan for each juvenile; (2) specific educational components
62 in the management of anger and nonviolent conflict resolution; (3)
63 treatment for chemical dependency; (4) mental health screening,
64 assessment and treatment; and (5) sexual offender treatment.

65 (b) The Office of Alternative Sanctions may contract to establish
66 regional secure residential facilities and regional highly supervised
67 residential and nonresidential facilities for juveniles referred by the
68 court. Such facilities shall operate within contracted-for capacity limits.
69 Such facilities shall be exempt from the licensing requirements of
70 section 17a-145.

71 (c) The Office of Alternative Sanctions shall collaborate with private
72 residential facilities providing residential programs and with
73 community-based nonresidential postrelease programs.

74 (d) Any program developed by the Office of Alternative Sanctions
75 that is designed to prevent or reduce delinquency and crime among
76 juvenile offenders shall be gender specific and shall comprehensively
77 address the unique needs of a targeted gender group and promote the
78 development of positive gender identities during the formative years
79 of the gender group.

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