



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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: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. The suitability of educational programs
11 provided by the commissioner shall be subject to review by the
12 Department of Education.

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 Section 46b-121h of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

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

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

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

25 (3) Adequately protect the community and juveniles;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

43 (11) Create and maintain programs for juvenile offenders that are
44 gender specific in that they comprehensively address the unique needs
45 of a targeted gender group.

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 Section 46b-121k of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

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

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

72 (d) Any program developed by the Office of Alternative Sanctions
73 that is designed to prevent or reduce delinquency and crime among
74 juvenile offenders shall be gender specific and shall comprehensively
75 address the unique needs of a targeted gender group.

