



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 219

February Session, 2004

Substitute House Bill No. 5366

House of Representatives, March 24, 2004

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. VILLANO of the 91st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PLAN OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR ADOLESCENT FEMALES INVOLVED IN THE JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2004*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Children and Families, in consultation with the Commissioner of
3 Social Services, the Child Advocate and providers of community based
4 services, shall establish a plan for the development of a continuum of
5 community based services for female juvenile status offenders and
6 delinquents. Such services shall be designed to prevent the
7 incarceration of such status offenders and delinquents. The plan shall
8 include, but not be limited to, intervention and substance abuse
9 programs, monitoring and treatment plans and mental health
10 treatment.

11 (b) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit the
12 plan required by subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The Department of Children and Families will be able to develop the planning document required by the bill and submit the same to the Select Committee on Children by January 1, 2005, without requiring additional resources. The Department of Social Services and the Office of the Child Advocate can consult at no cost to either agency.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5366

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PLAN OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR ADOLESCENT FEMALES INVOLVED IN THE JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families commissioner to establish a plan for developing a continuum of community-based services designed to prevent the incarceration of female juvenile status offenders and delinquents. She must do this in consultation with the social services commissioner, child advocate, and community-based service providers. The plan must include intervention and substance abuse programs, monitoring and treatment plans, and mental health treatment. The commissioner must submit the plan to the Appropriations, Human Services, and Children's committees by January 1, 2005.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2004

BACKGROUND***Status Offenses***

Status offenses are behaviors, such as truancy, running away from home, and certain sexual activities, that are offenses solely because of the actor's age. If referred to Juvenile Court, children who commit status offenses are considered part of a "family with service needs" and can be subject to court orders, including supervision by a probation officer or school authorities and community service. A status offender who fails to comply with a court order can be found delinquent and thus subject to incarceration.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 13 Nay 0

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 14 Nay 3