



House of Representatives

File No. 620

General Assembly

February Session, 2004

(Reprint of File No. 219)

Substitute House Bill No. 5366
As Amended by House
Amendment Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 16, 2004

**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 Court Support Services
3 Division, the Commissioner of Social Services, the Child Advocate and
4 providers of community based services, shall establish a plan for the
5 development of a continuum of community based services for female
6 juvenile status offenders and delinquents. Such services shall be
7 designed to prevent the incarceration of such status offenders and
8 delinquents. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, intervention
9 and substance abuse programs, monitoring and treatment plans and
10 mental health treatment.

11 (b) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit the
12 plan required by subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with
13 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of
14 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to

15 appropriations and human services and to the select committee of the
16 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children
17 not later than January 1, 2005.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2004</i>

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, Court Support Services Division and the Office of the Child Advocate can consult at no cost to either agency.

House "A" added the Court Support Services Division to the list of agencies providing consultation to the DCF. No fiscal impact is associated with this change.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5366 (as amended by House "A")*

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, the Judicial Department's Court Support Services Division, the 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.

*House Amendment "A" requires consultation with the Court Support Services Division.

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.

BACKGROUND

Legislative History

The House referred this bill (file 219) to the Legislative Management Committee on March 30 and the Judiciary Committee on April 6. Both committees reported it favorably, with no changes.

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

Legislative Management Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 11 Nay 6

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 36 Nay 1