

Approved: 4-11-97
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joe Kejr at 7:30 a.m. on APRIL 3, 1997 in Room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Andrew Howell, Excused
Representative Phill Kline, Excused
Representative Henry Helgerson, Excused
Representative Ed McKechnie, Excused

Committee staff present: Tricia Pierron, Legislative Research Department
Jerry Donaldson, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes
Lynn Workman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chairman Kejr recognized Albert Murray, who will assume his role full time in May as Commissioner of new Juvenile Justice Authority. He is currently assistant commissioner of juvenile services for the State of Tennessee. He currently has responsibility for all the juvenile correctional facilities in Tennessee and the states's youth homes and many of the residential youth homes and some responsibilities for special juvenile programs.

He discussed the transition blueprint put together by the Kansas Youth Authority. This plan will serve as a roadmap to get us from the old to the new. He commented that it will be a tough job but a manageable job. Some points that Mr. Murray will need to accomplish his goals:

- Flexibility
- Take transition plan & customize
- Assemble a staff
- Travel & visit with citizens of Kansas
- Take advantage of existing resources
- Build a system based on high standards
- Wants to have a good information system
- Build a system based on good research
- Build a systems based on good recruitment & retention of good professional employees
- Expect & reward excellence
- Establish a firm partnership with the committee and legislators

His comment on goals for the Juvenile Justice Authority:

- Long term placement for violent & chronic juvenile offenders
- Good community programs

The chairman recognized Representative David Adkins who had handouts on the Community Planning Process and Financial Planning(Attachment # 1) associated with **HB 2506.**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 1997.

Community Planning Process and Financial Planning

The Committee is supportive of the community planning articulated in Sub. For H.B. 2506 and believes this planning is critical to the success of Juvenile Justice Reform. However, the Committee believes that the parameters and goals of the process should be more clearly articulated. In addition, the long-range funding implications of the bill, are of concern to the Committee. The Committee learned that under the new placement matrix, approximately two-thirds of the youth currently sent to youth centers will be served in the community. The remaining one-third of offenders, those serious and chronic offenders who will continue to be placed in youth centers, will stay there for a longer period of time. This means that additional resources must be identified in order to serve youth in the communities who are currently placed at youth centers. Approximately \$15 million is expended on these youth now in the institutional setting, but savings will not accrue on the institutional end since the facilities will continue to operate at full capacity based on these longer lengths of stay. Projections based on the placement matrix would indicate an increase in the youth center populations of 100 - 150 youth. The Kansas Youth Authority has also recommended construction of a new facility to serve maximum security, special needs such as mental health, and/or to serve as a reception and diagnostic center. Such a facility would likely cost \$20 - \$25 million in construction costs, and an additional \$10 million in annual operating expenses. At this point in time, revenue sources and financial responsibilities under the new system have not been clearly articulated.

To this, end, the Committee recommends the following directions to the Commissioner related to guidelines for the planning process and development of a financial plan for the Juvenile Justice System:

The Commissioner shall develop an action plan to guide implementation of community planning. The action plan shall establish a schedule for the planning process and shall clearly state desired outcomes of the planning process. Before implementation of the community planning process, the Commissioner shall submit the proposed action plan to the Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight for review. The Commissioner shall also provide such committee with regular progress reports on the status of the planning process. The primary purposes of the community planning process shall be to:

- 1) foster collaboration among stakeholders in the juvenile justice

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system;

- 2) accurately assess community risk factors affecting juveniles;
- 3) determine community priorities to respond to juvenile crime and the risk factors affecting juveniles;
- 4) develop programs, services and placements, with sufficient capacity, to appropriately hold juvenile offenders in the community accountable for behavior which violates the law;
- 5) provide communities with assistance in developing juvenile justice programs which respond to community needs and priorities and which are cable of achieving desired outcomes, and in identifying resources necessary to provide such programs;
- 6) encourage the staffing of juvenile justice programs with appropriately trained personnel; and
- 7) provide communities with technical assistance, as needed, to achieve desired planning outcomes.

The Commissioner shall design the planning process to empower communities to develop community-based programs, services and placements sufficient to address juvenile crime and to appropriately provide programs and services to prevent juvenile crime.

On or before December 1, 1997, the Commissioner, with the approval of the Kansas Youth Authority, shall develop and submit to the Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight a recommendation to provide for the financial viability of the Kansas Juvenile Justice System. Such recommendation shall include a formula for the allocation of state funds to community programs and a rationale in support of the recommendation. Additionally, the Commissioner shall submit a recommendation, approved by the Kansas Youth Authority, detailing capital projects and expenditures projected during the five-year period beginning July 1, 1997, including a rationale in support of such recommendation. In developing such recommendations, the Commissioner shall avoid pursuing construction or expansion of state institutional capacity when appropriate alternatives to such placements are justified. The Commissioner's recommendations shall identify a revenue source

sufficient to appropriately fund expenditures anticipated to be incurred subsequent to expansion of community-based capacity and necessary to finance recommended capital projects.

The Committee supports funding of \$2.0 million requested by the Juvenile Justice Authority for the community planning process, and notes that the demand on the State General Fund could be offset by the transfer of \$800,000 in one-time balances in the Juvenile Detention Facilities Fund in FY 1998.

Maintaining an Emphasis on Community-Based Services and Prevention

The Committee continues to believe that it is essential that the new system maintain the vision articulated by the Kansas Youth Authority with an emphasis on prevention, front-end services, and community-based options. To this end, the Committee recommends that two existing docket fees, which were established for a temporary period to fund capital projects at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, be continued with the revenue dedicated to the Juvenile Justice Authority towards such purposes. Extension of fees which were slated to expire in FY 1998 and FY 1999 allows a revenue source to communities without the imposition of new or increased taxes or fees. These two docket fees are:

- 1) a \$4 municipal court docket fee scheduled to be reduced to \$2 in FY 1998; maintaining this fee at \$4, with \$2 dedicated to juvenile justice initiatives will result in revenue of \$472,000 in FY 1998;
- 2) a district court docket fee of \$9 scheduled to be reduced to \$8 effective in FY 1999; maintaining this fee at \$9, with \$1 dedicated to juvenile justice initiatives will result in revenue of approximately \$200,000 in FY 1999.

Along with existing Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant funds transferred from SRS, and anticipated revenues from the Kansas Endowment for Youth fund, the Juvenile Justice Authority will have available on an annual basis, approximately \$2.0 million for targeted grants for pilot projects and special purposes related to delinquency prevention.