



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 471

Chairperson: Senator Kermit A. Brashear
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: February 1, 2001

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The intent of LB 471 is to transfer the management and operation of the Secure Youth Confinement Facility from the Department of Correctional Services to the Office of Juvenile Services effective January 1, 2002. The bill deletes all statutory references to the Secure Youth Confinement Facility being operated by the Department of Correctional Services and includes the management of the facility as an administrative duty of the Office of Juvenile Services. Additionally, it harmonizes provisions within the Office of Juvenile Services Act and related statutes to incorporate the facility as an institution accessible to the juvenile justice system.

The bill provides for establishment of an interagency agreement between the Department of Correctional Services and the Office of Juvenile Services for the efficient transfer of operations and for the non-disruptive transfer of the current population to an appropriate setting in the Department's adult correctional facilities.

Furthermore, it is the intent of the bill to provide, upon agreement of both agencies, access to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility and other resources of the Office of Juvenile Services, by younger and more vulnerable youth who may be committed to the Department of Correctional Services until the offender's age of majority or discharge.

Lastly, it is the intent of the bill to permit the Office of Juvenile Services to contract with the Department of Correctional Services regarding aspects of security and support for the Secure Youth Treatment Facility.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Dwite A. Pedersen