

Joint Ad Hoc Committee Legislation

Juvenile Court Access to Records

[SB0610.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB0589.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Walley / Gant

CRIMINAL LAW: Release of confidential information by DCS upon presentation of court order. Adds district attorneys general to those the department of children's services must release confidential information to upon presentation of an appropriate court order. Broadly captioned.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 10 and Title 37, relative to department of children's services records.

Transfer to Adult System for Escape

[SB0611.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB1106.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Walley / Alexander

CRIMINAL LAW: Transfer of juvenile to a criminal court to be tried as an adult. Allows a juvenile court to transfer a juvenile 16 years of age or older to a criminal court of competent jurisdiction to be tried as an adult for committing the offense of escape from a youth development center approved, certified, or licensed by the department of children's services.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1 and Title 37, Chapter 5, relative to juvenile offenders.

Incorrigibility

[SB0608.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB1104.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Jackson / Stevens

CRIMINAL LAW: Minimum age for a juvenile to be transferred to penitentiary. Changes, from 18 years to 17 years, the age at which a juvenile committed to the department for an offense punishable by confinement in the penitentiary may be found to be incorrigible and, subject to an agreement between the commissioner of correction and the commissioner of children's services, may be transferred to the penitentiary. Broadly captioned.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37; Title 39; Title 40 and Title 41, relative to juveniles.

Separation Based on Age + Improve Employee Training and Compensation + Chaplain Services

[SB0617.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB1120.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Akbari / Gillespie

CRIMINAL LAW: Requirements for department of children's services training. Requires the department to provide annual training to youth service officers on best practices for behavior management and conflict resolution in the context of supervision of juvenile justice youth. Requires the department to make chaplain services available on a regular basis to juveniles who are in the department's custody and housed in a juvenile detention facility approved, certified, or licensed by the department, including youth development centers. Prohibits the department from requiring a juvenile to attend or make use of chaplain services. Requires juveniles 16 years of age or older in the department's custody in a Level III or Level IV facility to be housed, educated, and maintained separately from children less than 16 years of age. Broadly captioned.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, relative to the department of children's services.

Creation of Tennessee Juvenile Justice Review Commission

[SB0609.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB1103.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Jackson / Burkhart

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Creation of the Tennessee juvenile justice review commission. Creates the Tennessee juvenile justice review commission to review an appropriate sampling of juvenile justice cases and any critical incidents involving juveniles in order to provide the general assembly with findings and legislative recommendations. Specifies membership and terms for members of commission. Requires the commission to provide a report to the general assembly on the commission's progress in fulfilling its duties no later than January 1, 2024 (11 pp.).

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 37, relative to juvenile justice.

Expand DCS Prevention Grants

[SB0615.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB1105.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Akbari / Stevens

CRIMINAL LAW: DCS evaluating success of programs for at risk adolescents and reporting findings to general assembly. Changes from January 15 to February 15 of each year the date by which the department of children's services must evaluate the success of programs for at risk adolescents and report findings and recommendations to the judiciary committee of the senate and the civil justice committee of the house of representatives. Broadly captioned.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 33; Title 37 and Title 49, relative to programs for at risk juveniles.

Step Down Pilot Program

[SB0607.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB1121.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Jackson / Moon

CRIMINAL LAW: Program to provide services and assist in transitioning juveniles out of DCS custody. Requires the department of children's services to create a pilot program for juveniles in the custody of the department and housed at the John S. Wilder youth development center that utilizes a step-down approach to provide services and support to juveniles and assist in a juvenile's transition out of the custody of the department and reunification with family members. Requires the department to evaluate the pilot program and report its findings to the general assembly by February 15, 2026.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, relative to the department of children's services.

Access to 24/7 Psychological and Behavioral Health Services

[SB0616.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) [HB0862.pdf \(tn.gov\)](#) – Akbari / Sherrell

CRIMINAL LAW: Access to behavioral health services provided by DCS to juveniles in custody of department. Requires the department of children's services to provide juveniles who are in the department's custody and housed at juvenile detention facilities approved, certified, or licensed by the

department, including youth development centers, with twenty-four-hour access, seven days a week, to psychological and behavioral health services.

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, relative to the department of children's services.