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The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Bobbie Hunter.

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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senate Bill No. 302 by Senator Broome

**Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

CHILDREN. Provides for the conversion of Jetson Center for Youth. (8/15/09)

**Report adopts House amendments to:**

1. Delete requirement that the provisions regarding the juvenile placement review process and the conversion to a regional facility are null, void, and of no effect after June 30, 2011.
2. Change facility name from "Capital Area Center for Youth" to "Louis Jetson Center for Youth".

**Report rejects House amendments which would have:**

1. Added provisions requiring the DPS&C, office of juvenile justice, to submit to the Juvenile Justice Implementation Commission, House Judiciary Committee and Senate Judiciary B Committee on a biannual basis the Performance-based Standards reports along with the Facility Improvement Plan, for Bridge City Center for Youth, Louis Jetson Center for Youth, and Swanson Center for Youth.
2. Provided content, definitions, and deadlines for such reports.
3. Added provisions requiring DPS&C, office of juvenile justice, to develop a comprehensive plan for the implementation of evidence-based programs and practices within secure care facilities and community-based programs.
4. Provided programming and staffing requirements and deadlines for development of such plan.

**Report amends the bill to:**

1. Require that DPS&C office of juvenile justice's comprehensive plan for transitioning youths and conversion of the facility include strategies and activities that also incorporate the following:

- (a) Use of standardized and validated assessment of youth risks need factors.
- (b) Use of treatment interventions that target known predictors of crime and recidivism to prepare for youth offenders for success in the community.
- (c) Use of evidence-based programs.
- (d) Staff development.
- (e) Family involvement.
- (f) Continuous quality improvement and evaluation of programs.
- (g) Staff-to-youth ration in secure facilities with plans to achieve a staffing structure consistent with positive behavior treatment models.
- (h) Statistics of percentage of youth involved in fights in secure facilities with improvement plans.
- (I) A time line that highlights the benchmarks to successful implementation of the plan. Requires that the plan be submitted to the Juvenile Justice Implementation Commission no later than December 30, 2009, and thereafter, a progress report shall be submitted on an annual basis.

### **Digest of bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

Present law provides for a juvenile placement review process to improve the juvenile justice system and determine whether juveniles placed in the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) are placed in an environment appropriate to their needs and consistent with the circumstances of the case and the protection and the best interest of society.

Proposed law provides that present law provisions relative to the juvenile placement review process are null, void, and of no effect after June 30, 2011.

Present law provides for the closure of Jetson Center for Youth-East Baton Rouge Parish, a facility for juveniles, by June 30, 2009.

Proposed law provides that Jetson Center for Youth shall be converted into a regional treatment facility and renamed the Louis Jetson Center for Youth. The design will limit the number of youths per dorm, and the facilities must have a therapeutic setting.

Present law requires the DPS&C, office of juvenile justice, to develop a comprehensive plan for transition of youth based upon health, safety, and best interest of each child and the protection and public safety of society. Provides that such plan shall include recommendations for implementation and funding for three regional youth centers, a comprehensive needs assessment

and operating procedures.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that such plan include conversion of the facility and specifically also include the following:

- (a) Use of standardized and validated assessment of youth risks need factors.
- (b) Use of treatment interventions that target known predictors of crime and recidivism to prepare for youth offenders for success in the community.
- (c) Use of evidence-based programs.
- (d) Staff development.
- (e) Family involvement.
- (f) Continuous quality improvement and evaluation of programs.
- (g) Staff-to-youth ration in secure facilities with plans to achieve a staffing structure consistent with positive behavior treatment models.
- (h) Statistics of percentage of youth involved in fights in secure facilities with improvement plans.
- (I) A time line that highlights the benchmarks to successful implementation of the plan. Requires that the plan be submitted to the Juvenile Justice Implementation Commission no later than December 30, 2009, and thereafter, a progress report shall be submitted on an annual basis.

Present law provides that after January 1, 2009, and every month thereafter until Jetson is discontinued as a juvenile facility, DPS&C must submit a status report to the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission detailing the total number of youths in the facility, the number transitioned out of the facility and the facility to which the child was transferred, and the number of youths placed in the facility and the reason for the placement.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the reporting requirement on the number of children transitioned out of the facility, where the child was transferred, and the number of children placed in the facility.

Effective August 15, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 15:902.3(A) and 902.4(A), (B), and (D))