

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 86

BY SENATOR CLOUD

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the office of juvenile justice, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, to submit a written report to the Senate Committee on Finance not later than May 31, 2021, on each violent incident that has occurred in each secure care facility from January 1, 2016, through May 1, 2021, the date of the incident, the age of the youth involved in each incident, and the housing status of the youth after the incident.

WHEREAS, secure care is reserved for youth considered to be a risk to public safety and not amenable to treatment in a less restrictive setting; and

WHEREAS, the office of juvenile justice, Department of Public Safety and Corrections oversees state secure care facilities for juveniles, including the Bridge City Center for Youth, the Swanson Centers for Youth in Monroe and Columbia, and the Acadiana Center for Youth in Bunkie, and other contracted housing for juveniles, including secure care, residential care, or other group home facilities; and

WHEREAS, an increase in violence in secure care facilities was noted in a 2018 legislative auditor report, which cited a one hundred twenty-one percent increase at the Bridge City Center for Youth; and

WHEREAS, violent behaviors disrupt treatment and education services and may also indicate that youth are not receiving effective rehabilitation services; and

WHEREAS, with the increase in violence, one of the highest priorities of secure care facilities and other facilities must be to promote public safety and ensure the safety and well-being of staff and youth.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the office of juvenile justice, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, to submit a written report to the Senate Committee on Finance not later than May 31, 2021, on violent incidents in secure care facilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the written report shall contain the following information:

- (1) A list of each violent incident that has occurred at each secure care facility from January 1, 2016, through May 1, 2021.
- (2) The date of each incident.
- (3) The age of the youth involved in the incident.
- (4) Whether the youth remained in the secure care facility after the incident or if the youth was transferred to another facility after the incident, the type of facility the youth was transferred to, and the duration of the transfer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of juvenile justice shall provide written notice within ten days of each violent incident at a secure care facility to the members of the Louisiana Senate and Louisiana House of Representatives whose districts encompasses the secure care facility where the violent incident occurred.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the deputy secretary of the office of juvenile justice, Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE