
DIGEST

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Peterson

HB No. 894

Abstract: Creates a pilot program to provide services to juvenile offenders and their families.

Proposed law creates a pilot program within the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, youth services, office of juvenile justice, to provide services to at risk juveniles and their families based upon a functional family therapy model of intervention. This pilot program shall provide services which shall include, but is not limited to, substance abuse counseling and interventions aimed at enhancing interpersonal relationships, developing conflict resolution skills, and developing coping mechanisms for managing anger and stress. Authorizes the office of juvenile justice to enter into cooperative endeavor agreements or contacts with any department or agency of the state or federal government, any non-profit organization, any public or private service provider, or any community-based organization to implement the provisions of proposed law. Requires the promulgation of administrative rules in accordance with the APA.

Proposed law provides that juveniles who are eleven years of age or greater, but less than eighteen years of age who have been adjudicated delinquent may be eligible to participate in the pilot program. Provides that the following juveniles shall not be eligible for participation:

- (1) A juvenile who is subject to the jurisdiction of the criminal court or has been transferred to the criminal court for prosecution as an adult.
- (2) A juvenile who is accused of committing a sex offense.
- (3) A juvenile who is accused of committing a crime of violence.

(Adds Ch. C. Art. 896.1 and R.S. 15:971 - 974)