

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 584

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

JUVENILES: Provides relative to the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:951(C) and (E) and to enact R.S. 15:827.3(A)(2)(d), relative
3 to children; to provide relative to the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program; to provide
4 relative to allocation of certain monies; to provide for administration of the program;
5 to provide for an intermediary; to provide relative to the definition of "youth or
6 youths"; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 15:951(C) and (E) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
9 15:827.3(A)(2)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §827.3. Savings attributable to criminal justice reforms; data collection and
11 reporting requirements to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget

12 A.

13 * * *

14 (2) Each fiscal year, the annual savings shall be allocated as follows:

15 * * *

16 (d) Fifteen percent shall be allocated to the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund
17 Board to administer and operate the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program as provided
18 in R.S. 15:951.

19 * * *

1 §951. Back on Track Youth Pilot Program

2 * * *

3 C.(1) This program shall be administered by selected nonprofit groups as
4 well as the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the Department of Children
5 and Family Services, the Department of Education, ~~and~~ the Louisiana Workforce
6 Commission, and the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund Board.

7 (2) The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund Board is hereby named as the
8 intermediary of the program with the authority to manage or administer funds and
9 address any changes in program funding as needed.

10 * * *

11 E. For the purposes of this Section, "youth or youths" shall mean a person
12 who has ~~not~~ attained ~~eighteen~~ at least sixteen years of age and not more than twenty-
13 four years of age.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 584 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Lyons

Abstract: Provides relative to the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program.

Present law (R.S. 15:827.3) provides for savings attributable to criminal justice reforms.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 15:827.3(A)) provides that at the end of each fiscal year, the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) shall calculate the annual savings realized as a result of criminal justice reinvestment legislation enacted in the 2017 R.S. of the Legislature and thereafter.

Present law further provides that each fiscal year, the annual savings shall be allocated as follows:

- (1) 15% shall be allocated to the DPS&C to award incentive grants to parishes, judicial districts, and nonprofit community partner organizations to expand evidence-backed prison alternatives and reduce admissions to the state prison system.
- (2) 10% shall be allocated to the La. Comm. on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice to award competitive grants for victim services, including but not limited to victim safety assessments and safety planning, trauma-informed treatment and services for victims and survivors, shelters and transitional housing for domestic violence victims and their children, batterers'

intervention programming, and victim-focused education and training for justice system professionals.

- (3) 45% shall be allocated to the La. Community and Technical College System for targeted investments in educational and vocational training aimed at recidivism reduction programming for adult and juvenile offenders. Further provides that such funds shall be utilized in connection with any other available sources of federal or state aid or training funds.

Proposed law retains present law and allocates 15% of the annual savings to the La. Children's Trust Fund Board for administration and operation of the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program as provided in present law (R.S. 15:951).

Present law (R.S. 15:951) provides for the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 15:951(C)) provides that the program shall be administered by selected nonprofit groups as well as the DPS&C, the Dept. of Children and Family Services, the Dept. of Education, and the La. Workforce Commission.

Proposed law retains present law and adds the La. Children's Trust Fund Board as an administering entity.

Proposed law provides that the La. Children's Trust Fund Board is hereby named as the intermediary of the program with the authority to manage or administer funds and address any changes in program funding as needed.

Present law (R.S. 15:951(E)) defines the term "youth or youths" as a person who has not attained 18 years of age.

Proposed law amends present law to define the term "youth or youths" as a person who has attained at least 16 years of age and not more than 24 years of age.

(Amends R.S. 15:951(C) and (E); Adds R.S. 15:827.3(A)(2)(d))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove the change in allocation of annual savings to the DPS&C that are attributable to criminal justice reforms.
3. Allocate 15% of the annual savings that are attributable to criminal justice reforms to the La. Children's Trust Fund Board for administration and operation of the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program as provided in present law (R.S. 15:951).