

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY SENATOR BARROW

JUVENILE JUSTICE. Requests the office of juvenile justice to provide specific information in a report to the Senate committees on Finance and Judiciary B relative to complaints, investigations, and litigation at secure and non-secure care facilities under the jurisdiction of the office of juvenile justice, youth services.

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the office of juvenile justice to provide specific information in a report to the Senate committees on Finance and Judiciary B relative to complaints, investigations, and litigation at secure and non-secure care facilities under jurisdiction of the office of juvenile justice, youth services.

WHEREAS, state law mandates that the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of juvenile justice, have full control of all juvenile institutions, facilities, and programs under its administration and the affairs of such institutions, facilities, and programs and shall adopt all rules and regulations which it deems essential to the proper conduct of these institutions, facilities, and programs; and

WHEREAS, state law also mandates that the office of juvenile justice shall have responsibility for the care, custody, security, and treatment of children adjudicated delinquent and children of families adjudicated in need of services committed to the custody of or placed under the supervision of the office of juvenile justice or of youth services pursuant to the Children's Code; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the office of juvenile justice is to protect the public by providing safe and effective individualized services to youth, who will become productive, law-abiding citizens; and

1 WHEREAS, the vision of the office of juvenile justice is to provide a quality system
2 of care which embraces partnerships with families, communities, and stakeholders to assist
3 youth in redirecting their lives toward responsible citizenship; and

4 WHEREAS, according to the office of juvenile justice, secure care, the deep end of
5 the juvenile justice system, is reserved for those youth deemed to be a risk to public safety
6 and/or not amenable to treatment in a less restrictive setting who are monitored constantly
7 under direct supervision of staff, and are not allowed to come and go freely; and

8 WHEREAS, residential providers, according to the office of juvenile justice, are
9 responsible for the day-to-day operation of residential/group homes, shelter care, transitional
10 living programs, and foster care; and

11 WHEREAS, over the past few years, there have been several high profile cases
12 involving the office of juvenile justice, including the decision to house juveniles at the
13 Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola and lawsuits regarding the conditions at the WARE
14 Youth Center; and

15 WHEREAS, R.S. 15:933 mandates, in part, the office of juvenile justice must publish
16 reports to include but not be limited to "the total cost of operating each office of juvenile
17 justice secure facility, disaggregated by facility, in the preceding year, with the following
18 costs disaggregated: cost of facilities, cost of staffing, cost of mental health treatment, and
19 cost of educational services"; and

20 WHEREAS, Children's Code Art. 412 states in part that "non-identifying information
21 of general nature, including statistics, is not confidential and may be released without a court
22 order"; and

23 WHEREAS, for the safety and well-being of juveniles housed in secure and non-
24 secure facilities, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana seeks to review and analyze all
25 complaints, investigations, and litigation at each secure and non-secure facility under the
26 office of juvenile justice, youth services.

27 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
28 does hereby urge and request the office of juvenile justice to provide specific information
29 relative to complaints, investigations, and litigation at secure and non-secure care facilities
30 under the jurisdiction of the office of juvenile justice, youth services, by written report to the

1 Senate committees on Finance and Judiciary B no later than February 1, 2026.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall address all of the following
3 between 2020 and 2025 and shall be itemized by year:

4 (1) (Acadiana Center for Youth in Bunkie) The total number of complaints, itemized
5 accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the juvenile, or a
6 third party.

7 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
8 and aggravated).

9 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

10 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

11 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
12 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

13 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
14 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
15 settled.

16 (2) (Acadiana Center for Youth in St. Martinville) The total number of complaints,
17 itemized accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the
18 juvenile, or a third party.

19 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
20 and aggravated).

21 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

22 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

23 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
24 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

25 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
26 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
27 settled.

28 (3) (Bridge City Center for Youth in Jefferson Parish) The total number of
29 complaints, itemized accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member
30 of the juvenile, or a third party.

1 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
2 and aggravated).

3 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

4 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

5 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
6 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

7 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
8 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
9 settled.

10 (4) (Swanson Center for Youth in Columbia) The total number of complaints,
11 itemized accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the
12 juvenile, or a third party.

13 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
14 and aggravated).

15 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

16 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

17 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
18 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

19 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
20 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
21 settled.

22 (5) (Swanson Center for Youth in Monroe) The total number of complaints, itemized
23 accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the juvenile, or a
24 third party.

25 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
26 and aggravated).

27 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

28 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

29 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
30 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

1 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
2 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
3 settled.

4 (6) (WARE Youth Center in Coushatta) The total number of complaints, itemized
5 accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the juvenile, or a
6 third party.

7 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
8 and aggravated).

9 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

10 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

11 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
12 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

13 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
14 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
15 settled.

16 (7) (WARE Youth Center in Bossier) The total number of complaints, itemized
17 accordingly, that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the juvenile, or a
18 third party.

19 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple
20 and aggravated).

21 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

22 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

23 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
24 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

25 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
26 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
27 settled.

28 (8) (Residential Providers) The total number of complaints, itemize by each provider,
29 that has been reported by the juvenile, a family member of the juvenile, or a third party.

30 (a) The total number of reported complaints relative to an assault and battery (simple

1 and aggravated).

2 (b) The total number of reported complaints relative to sexual battery.

3 (c) The total number of reported complaints relative to rape.

4 (d) The total number of investigations that were conducted due to the reported
5 complaints, with the status and outcome of each investigation.

6 (e) How many state and federal lawsuits have been filed as a result of allegations of
7 wrongdoing, the status of each case, and the name and case number of all suits that were
8 settled.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon submission of the report, the Senate
10 committees on Finance and Judiciary B may hold separate public hearings to review the
11 report and exercise oversight of the office of juvenile justice, youth services.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report requested by this Resolution shall be
13 submitted annually by February first beginning in 2026.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
15 deputy secretary of the office of juvenile justice.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
The keyword, summary, 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)]

	DIGEST	
SR 132 Original	2025 Regular Session	Barrow

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