

Hall of the House of Representatives
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2452

"TO ADDRESS THE OUT-OF-STATE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN FOR MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES AND TREATMENT."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2452.

Amend House Bill No. 2452 as originally introduced:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute:

"SECTION 1. It is the intent of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that:

(1) Juveniles receive mental health services in their communities whenever possible and in the least restrictive placement consistent with the juvenile's treatment needs;

(2) Circuit courts are provided with qualified mental health screenings to assist courts in ordering appropriate mental health services for juveniles; and

(3) Juvenile officers, mental health providers, residential providers, the Department of Human Services, Child and Adolescent Service System Program providers, attorneys, and advocates shall work together to ensure the continuity of mental health services for juveniles in their communities.

SECTION 2. (a) When a mental health screening or assessment is provided to the juvenile division of a circuit court, the screening or assessment shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) An assessment of the mental health services needed for the juvenile and the juvenile's family; and

(2) The services that could be provided to enable the juvenile to remain safely in his or her home and the availability of such services.

(b) If the screening or assessment recommends that the juvenile cannot remain safely in his or her home, then the screening or assessment shall state the recommended type of residential treatment or in-patient treatment that is needed for the juvenile which:

(1) Meets the treatment needs of the juvenile;

(2) Allows the juvenile to remain as close to his or her home and community as possible so that his or her family can participate in the treatment plan;

(3) Provides for the least restrictive placement ensuring the



health and safety of the juvenile;

(4) Provides an anticipated length of time needed for residential or in-patient treatment; and

(5) Provides a plan for the reintegration of the juvenile into his or her community, including coordination with local providers when the juvenile is released from residential or in-patient treatment."

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative Roebuck

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Chief Clerk