

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 506

5 By: Senator Irvin
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE YOUTH JUSTICE
9 REFORM BOARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

12 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE YOUTH
13 JUSTICE REFORM BOARD.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-28-1201 is amended to read as follows:
20 9-28-1201. Youth Justice Reform Board – Creation – Membership.

21 (a) To ensure statewide accountability for the delivery of youth
22 services consistent with this subchapter, the Division of Youth Services of
23 the Department of Human Services shall create the Youth Justice Reform Board
24 no later than sixty (60) days following July 22, 2015.

25 (b)(1) The members of the Youth Justice Reform Board shall be selected
26 by the Director of the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human
27 Services for a single four-year term, with appointments approved by the
28 Governor.

29 (2) The Youth Justice Reform Board shall be composed of a
30 maximum of twenty-one (21) representatives who have demonstrated a commitment
31 to improving youth services, with individuals selected from key stakeholder
32 groups, including without limitation:

- 33 (A) Juvenile justice system-involved families;
34 (B) Youths who have received or are receiving services
35 delivered by the Division of Youth Services;
36 (C) Representatives from the Department of Education,



1 Department of Workforce Services, the Division of Children and Family
 2 Services of the Department of Human Services, and the Division of Aging,
 3 Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services;

4 (D) Youth services providers;

5 (E) Circuit court judges who routinely preside over
 6 juvenile cases;

7 (F) The Administrative Office of the Courts;

8 (G) Prosecuting attorneys or deputy prosecuting attorneys
 9 who are routinely involved in juvenile delinquency cases;

10 (H) Public defenders or deputy public defenders who are
 11 routinely involved in juvenile delinquency cases;

12 (I) Advocacy groups, including the designated state
 13 protection and advocacy group for individuals with disabilities, and other
 14 research and advocacy groups with established leadership for children and
 15 families in Arkansas;

16 (J) The juvenile ombudsman of the Juvenile Ombudsman
 17 Division of the Arkansas Public Defender Commission;

18 (K) Members of the Arkansas Coalition for Juvenile Justice
 19 Board;

20 (L) Members of the Juvenile Justice Reform Subcommittee of
 21 the Arkansas Supreme Court Commission on Children, Youth and Families; ~~and~~

22 (M) Experts in adolescent development;

23 (N) Members of the General Assembly; and

24 (O) Juvenile court staff or program representatives.

25 (c) ~~The director, or his or her designee, shall serve as Governor~~
 26 shall appoint the Chair of the Youth Justice Reform Board.

27 (d) The Youth Justice Reform Board shall meet at least quarterly.

28 (e) The Division of Youth Services shall provide administrative
 29 support necessary for the Youth Justice Reform Board to perform its duties.

30 (f) The Youth Justice Reform Board shall cease operation by ~~June 30,~~
 31 2019 June 30, 2021.