



Florida Juvenile Justice Association

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

Week Two: March 14, 2014

Revised Revenue Forecast Adds \$150M to GR

Estimates now put the budget surplus at \$1.2 billion, a surplus of \$200 million more than the current year. The House has released budget allocations to appropriations committees this week. The Senate should be providing allocations to the appropriation committees sometime next week.

FJJA Education Bill Passes 117-0 on House Floor

HB173 (Adkins R-Fernandina Beach) passed favorably on the House floor 117-0. **SB598** (Bean R-Jacksonville) passed the Education Committee and now moves to the second stop, Criminal Justice Committee. The FJJA bill provides for DJJ youth to have an individual educational plan with access to vocational credentials or industry certification. The bill also focuses education services to a youth's individual need, and provides opportunities to participate in post-secondary online courses or virtual school. This legislation and funding will provide DJJ youth with GED, postsecondary and industry certification opportunities, increasing their success, lowering recidivism rates, and realizing a return on investment for Florida taxpayers. Thanks to all FJJA members and partners who have worked with us to pass this priority bill.

Other Bill Activity

SB700 (Bradley R-Fleming Island) was postponed at the third committee stop. **HB 7055**, (CJ Subcommittee/Pilon (R-Sarasota), awaits the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee. These bills seek to **revise Chapter 985** to reflect DJJ's current focus to concentrate resources on front-end interventions, as well as codify prevention, trauma informed care, reframing the mission to more of a rehabilitative model than punitive.

HB 7029 (Baxley R-Ocala) awaits a second reading on the House floor, and companion **SB 1060** (Evers R-Pensacola), has two stops before it reaches the Senate floor. This legislation corrects the misuse of "zero tolerance" policies by local school districts when suspending youth.

SB 548 (Simmons R-Altamonte Springs), heads to its final stop, Appropriations, and companion, **HB 451** (Fitzenhagen R-Ft. Myers), is pending at the CJ Subcommittee. These bills seek to further criminalize **Bullying**.

Human Trafficking Bills Starting to Move

The House Healthy Families Subcommittee has voted to submit **PCB HF14-02**. This bill would ensure a continuum of services for sex-trafficking victims. Some opposition by stakeholders relates to a pilot program placing victims in a "secure safe house" in which they could be placed involuntarily for up to 10 months. This PCB will be referenced soon and is only one of six bills filed relating to minor sex trafficking.

FJJA Bill Tracking

HB 0095	Juvenile Civil Citations	Clarke-Reed
HB 0173	Juvenile Justice Education Programs	Adkins
SB 0210	Juvenile Civil Citations	Gibson
SB 0384	Relating to Juvenile Sentencing	Bradley
HB 0451	Relating to Bullying	Fitzenhagen
HB 0455	Restitution for Juvenile Offenses	Eagle
HB 0461	Relating to Prosecution of Juveniles	Powell
SB 0548	Relating to Bullying	Simmons
SB 0598	Juvenile Justice Education Programs	Bean
SB 0700	985 Rewrite (Juvenile Justice)	Bradley
SB 0768	Relating to Human Trafficking	Braynon
HB 0953	Relating to State Contracting	Peters
HB 0989	Relating to Human Trafficking	Trujillo
HB 1017	Relating to Human Trafficking	Spano
SB 1040	Restitution for Juvenile Offenses	Detert
HB 1071	Sexually Exploited Children	Fresen
SB 1164	Relating to Human Trafficking	Simmons
HB 7035	Relating to Juvenile Sentencing	CJ Subcommittee
HB 7055	985 Rewrite (Juvenile Justice)	CJ Subcommittee
CRJS8	Relating to Juvenile Sentencing	CJ Subcommittee
HFS2	Relating to Human Trafficking	Healthy Families

Bills to Overhaul Child Welfare System Pass in Senate

The Senate passed three reform bills this week: **SPB7072** aims to professionalize the credentials of the workforce. **SPB7074** would require "rapid response teams" to investigate child deaths or serious incidents and create an advisory committee to review each report. **SPB7076** would require additional care planning for children with medically complex needs with a focus on placement in homes rather than institutions. As these bills move, amendments are expected.

The House reform package **PCB HFS 14-03**, still in draft was work shopped in committee this week. Healthy Families Subcommittee Chair Harrell plans to finalize draft bill next week following the last of stakeholder feedback received at the next committee meeting.