



Legislative Council Staff
Research Note

Version: Senate Second
Reading
Date: 3/20/2017

Bill Number

House Bill 17-1101

Sponsors

***Representative Rosenthal
Senators Priola & Todd***

Short Title

***Division of Youth Corrections
Monetary Incentives Award
Program***

Research Analyst

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Status

This bill is currently pending before the Senate on second reading. The research note reflects the bill as referred by the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 15, 2017.

Background

This bill creates a monetary incentive program for academic performance in the Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) in the Colorado Department of Human Services (DHS). The DYC is responsible for operating juvenile detention facilities and caring for and supervising youth committed by the district courts to the custody of the DHS. There are 11 DYC juvenile facilities located across the state, three of which are operated by community-based providers. The DYC serves persons ages 12 to 21. DYC also contracts with a variety of private providers for initial treatment programs and programs for youths transitioning from secure facilities.

Educational services and programs are provided to all youth in DYC facilities, and youth may obtain a GED or high school graduation while in detention. Every facility uses the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework which utilizes positive reinforcement to reward youth when they exhibit expected behaviors. Rewards are not monetary, rather a youth may receive additional call or visit time or increased personal items.

Currently, no other states utilize a monetary incentive program in their youth corrections systems.

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House Action

House Public Health Care and Human Services (February 7, 2017). At the hearing, a representative from DHS testified in a neutral position. The committee adopted amendment L.001 and referred the bill, as amended, to the House Finance Committee.

Amendment L.001 was a strike below amendment that made the establishment of the program by the DYC optional. The amendment also stated that if the DYC were to establish a program, the DYC must contract with a nonprofit organization to work with the DYC to develop the program criteria and serve as custodian of the money donated to the program. The designated nonprofit may solicit, accept, and expend monetary donations on behalf of the program, but may not be the custodian of any money appropriated by the state.

House Finance Committee (February 13, 2017). The committee referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

House second reading (February 16, 2017). The House adopted the House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee report, and passed the bill on second reading, as amended.

House third reading (February 21, 2017). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

Senate Action

Senate Judiciary Committee (March 15, 2017). At the hearing, two private citizens testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole with no amendments.