

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: S4/1/19
A Bill

SENATE BILL 506

By: Senator Irvin

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE YOUTH
JUSTICE REFORM BOARD.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-28-1201 is amended to read as follows:

9-28-1201. Youth Justice Reform Board – Creation – Membership.

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

(b)(1) The Except for a member who is appointed from the General Assembly, the members of the Youth Justice Reform Board shall be selected by the Director of the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services for a single four-year term, with appointments being approved by the Governor.

(2)(A) Each member of the Youth Justice Reform Board who is a member of the Senate shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(B) Each member of the Youth Justice Reform Board who is a member of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by and shall serve at the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(3) The Youth Justice Reform Board shall be composed of a



~~maximum of twenty one (21) representatives~~ the following members who have demonstrated a commitment to improving youth services, with individuals selected from key stakeholder groups, including without limitation:

- (A) Juvenile justice system-involved families;
- (B) Youths who have received or are receiving services delivered by the Division of Youth Services;
- (C) Representatives from the Department of Education, Department of Workforce Services, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Human Services, and the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services;
- (D) Youth services providers;
- (E) Circuit court judges who routinely preside over juvenile cases;
- (F) The Administrative Office of the Courts;
- (G) Prosecuting attorneys or deputy prosecuting attorneys who are routinely involved in juvenile delinquency cases;
- (H) Public defenders or deputy public defenders who are routinely involved in juvenile delinquency cases;
- (I) Advocacy groups, including the designated state protection and advocacy group for individuals with disabilities, and other research and advocacy groups with established leadership for children and families in Arkansas;
- (J) The juvenile ombudsman of the Juvenile Ombudsman Division of the Arkansas Public Defender Commission;
- (K) Members of the Arkansas Coalition for Juvenile Justice Board;
- (L) Members of the Juvenile Justice Reform Subcommittee of the Arkansas Supreme Court Commission on Children, Youth and Families; ~~and~~
- (M) *Experts in adolescent development;*
- (N) Two (2) members of the Senate;
- (O) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives; and
- (P) Juvenile court staff or program representatives.

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

- (d) The Youth Justice Reform Board shall meet at least quarterly.
- (e) The Division of Youth Services shall provide administrative

support necessary for the Youth Justice Reform Board to perform its duties.

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

/s/Irvin

APPROVED: 4/12/19