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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 96, L.D. 155, “An Act Regarding Community-based Services for Youth Involved in the Juvenile Justice System”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §19132, sub-§9**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 450, §7, is amended to read:

**9. Program implementation and oversight.** Initiate, implement and oversee programs, policies and services consistent with the purposes of this chapter; ~~and~~

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §19132, sub-§10**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 450, §7, is amended to read:

**10. Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council.** Oversee the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council, established under section 24051, and direct a representative of the cabinet to meet at least once yearly with the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council and consult with one or more state-designated groups representing youth issues regarding goals selected by the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council; ~~and~~

**Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §19132, sub-§11** is enacted to read:

**11. Coordination across state agencies.** Establish a working group that includes the Department of Corrections and the Department of Health and Human Services to promote coordinated policies, finances, programs and service delivery systems to support juveniles involved in the juvenile justice system. The working group shall conduct a review of other states in regard to best practices and organizational structures for juvenile justice services.

**Sec. 4. 34-A MRSA §7009** is enacted to read:

**§7009. Grants for local and regional planning and services**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1           The department shall establish a grant program to assist local or regional communities  
2 with creating and implementing plans to increase programs and services available to  
3 juveniles in a local or regional community.

4           **1. Grants.** Under the grant program, the department shall offer:

5           A. Planning grants to be used for mapping assets, identifying needs and creating a plan  
6 for establishing needed programs and services for juveniles within a community, with  
7 a focus on juveniles involved, or at risk of involvement, with the juvenile justice  
8 system; and

9           B. Implementation grants to be used to fund programs and services identified in  
10 paragraph A.

11           **2. Recipients.** Eligible grant recipients include municipalities, counties, local law  
12 enforcement agencies and local nonprofit organizations. Recipients of grants shall  
13 coordinate with a broad range of local stakeholders to undertake the planning and  
14 implementation process, including, but not limited to, municipal officials, local school  
15 systems, local law enforcement, the recipient's regional care team, existing juvenile-serving  
16 organizations in the recipient's area and affected community members. For the purposes of  
17 this subsection, "regional care team" means a team organized within a department  
18 administrative region to facilitate the health, safety and well-being of juveniles involved,  
19 or at risk of involvement, with the juvenile justice system.

20           The department may use other department funds and funds from federal and private  
21 sources for the purposes of this section.

22           **Sec. 5. 34-A MRSA §7010** is enacted to read:

23 **§7010. Publication of data**

24           By February 15, 2024, the department shall develop and publish on its publicly  
25 accessible website data regarding the number of juveniles involved in the juvenile justice  
26 system. The data must be updated monthly and include information regarding the numbers  
27 of juveniles referred, diverted, detained, placed on probation, ordered to serve a period of  
28 confinement and committed to the department. The department shall deidentify the data  
29 and remove any potential personal identifying information of the juveniles. The data must  
30 be organized by region of the State and broken down by age, gender and race.

31           **Sec. 6. 34-A MRSA §7011** is enacted to read:

32 **§7011. Reports regarding juvenile justice system**

33           **1. Annual report regarding reducing detention rates and expanding community-**  
34 **based alternatives.** By February 15th of each year, the department shall provide an annual  
35 report in person to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
36 criminal justice and public safety matters. The report must include detailed information  
37 regarding:

38           A. The efforts of the department and the Department of Health and Human Services to  
39 offer diversion options for juveniles involved in the juvenile justice system and to  
40 reduce the rates of detention and commitment of youths across the State;

41           B. The successes and challenges of the department and the Department of Health and  
42 Human Services in expanding access to community-based therapeutic services or

1 programs for the purpose of diverting juveniles involved in the juvenile justice system  
 2 from detention and commitment;

3 C. A summary of the Long Creek Youth Development Center, including, but not  
 4 limited to, the number of staff as of the December 1 preceding the report, staffing levels  
 5 and the challenges at the facility;

6 D. The strategic plan developed by the department and the Department of Health and  
 7 Human Services and the Department of Corrections in consultation with the task force  
 8 established by the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group;

9 E. The specific juvenile-focused community-based programs and services receiving  
 10 funding from the department, including the amount of funding received by the  
 11 community-based organizations providing the programs and services;

12 F. The successes and challenges of the department in expanding juvenile-focused  
 13 community-based programs and services; and

14 G. Any other information the department determines is relevant to the report.

15 **2. Annual report regarding possible locations for secure, therapeutic residences**  
 16 **for detained and committed youths.** By January 1st of each year, the department shall  
 17 provide an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
 18 jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters on the status of the identification  
 19 and development of 2 small, secure, therapeutic residences for youths for the purpose of  
 20 providing detention and confinement for committed youths in a therapeutic setting. These  
 21 2 residences shall provide for a maximum occupancy of 20 youths. The report must include  
 22 rationale for the consideration of each identified residence, as well as an estimate on the  
 23 number of youths that will be served at the residence, an estimate of the cost for  
 24 construction and operation of the residence and staffing options for providing services at  
 25 the residence to youths living at the residence, including therapeutic programs and  
 26 educational services.

27 **Sec. 7. PL 2021, c. 398, §K K K K-4** is repealed.

28 **Sec. 8. PL 2021, c. 398, §K K K K-5** is repealed.

29 **Sec. 9. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
 30 allocations are made.

31 **CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF**

32 **Administration - Corrections 0141**

33 Initiative: Provides funding for one Public Service Coordinator II position and related costs  
 34 to implement and administer the grant program.

35 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
36 POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.000
37 Personal Services	\$0	\$138,535
38 All Other	\$0	\$9,969
39		
40 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$148,504

41 **Administration - Corrections 0141**

1 Initiative: Provides ongoing funding to local or regional communities to support the  
2 creation and implementation of plans to increase programs and services available to  
3 juveniles in the locality or region.

4	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
5	All Other	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
6			
7	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

8			
9	<b>CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
10	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
11			
12	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,148,504</b>
13			
14	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$1,000,000</b></u>	<u><b>\$1,148,504</b></u>

15  
16 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
17 number to read consecutively.

### 18 SUMMARY

19 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill, which  
20 is a concept draft. The amendment does the following.

21 1. It establishes a working group in the Children's Cabinet consisting of the Department  
22 of Corrections and the Department of Health and Human Services to promote coordination  
23 in the provision of services to juveniles involved in the juvenile justice system and to  
24 examine other states in regard to best practices and organizational structures for juvenile  
25 justice services.

26 2. It creates a grant program to assist local or regional communities with creating and  
27 implementing plans to increase programs and services available to juveniles in the local or  
28 regional community. It provides an ongoing appropriation of \$1,000,000 per year to the  
29 Department of Corrections for the purpose of funding the grant program.

30 3. It requires the Department of Corrections to develop and publish data regarding the  
31 number of juveniles involved in the juvenile justice system.

32 4. It requires the Department of Corrections to submit an annual report in person to the  
33 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and  
34 public safety matters regarding the diversion of youths out of the juvenile justice system  
35 and expanding access to community-based therapeutic services for juveniles.

36 5. It requires the Department of Corrections to submit an annual report to the joint  
37 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public  
38 safety matters on the status of the identification and development of 2 small, secure,  
39 therapeutic residences for youths for the purpose of providing detention and confinement  
40 for committed youths in a therapeutic setting.

# COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1           6. It repeals provisions of prior enacted public laws that are enacted in statute in similar  
2 form in this amendment.

3

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

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**(See attached)**