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# JUVENILE JUSTICE PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT

*Impact on Counties*

## BENEFITS:

### Diversion Incentive Funding

- The Governor is recommending ongoing annual funding of \$250,000 to incentivize juvenile diversion to prevent deeper involvement in the juvenile justice system for youth committing lower level offenses or CHINS violations. Studies show that diversion is more effective than formal court interventions for many youth.
- Counties will benefit from **state funds to reimburse counties for dealing with juveniles in the community.**

### County Detention Reimbursement

- The Governor is recommending an annual appropriation until the end of 2019 to go to counties that experience increased use of detention beds as a result of the reforms.
- Counties will benefit from the **state funds to offset detention bed costs.**

### Community-based Interventions

- Community-based interventions will expand access to proven community-based services for youth.
- The Governor is recommending \$2.9 million be invested for the six months beginning January 1, 2016; that figure doubles for FY17. This funding includes a rate increase for providers to serve youth in rural counties.
- Research indicates that better results are possible through the use of evidenced-based practices and programs in the community.
- Counties will benefit from **community-based interventions that produce better outcomes for communities, youth, and their families.** Counties will also benefit from the **infusion of funds for local providers to serve juvenile justice system involved youth.**

### Graduated Responses to Probation Violations

- Probation violations will be addressed through a graduated response grid that guides court services officers to respond proportionally and swiftly to violations, with sanctions ranging from stricter curfews to more frequent contact with officers to detention as a last resort.
- Counties will benefit from **a process that holds youth more accountable and addresses delinquent behavior without using detention or court time in most cases.**

### Detention Length Limitation

- Currently, a juvenile may be disposed to county detention for 90 days with no limitations. The bill includes a provision that detention may not be used for more than 14 days in a 30-day period without the court entering findings of fact and conclusions of law in the dispositional decree justifying an extended stay.
- Counties will benefit from this provision aimed at **preventing lengthy stays in detention.**

### Limitations on Probation Supervision Lengths

- Limitations on the duration of juvenile probation will further reduce the already declining number of youth under supervision.
- Counties will benefit from **fewer offenders under supervision because court services officers will have more time to focus on juveniles at higher risk to reoffend.**

## LIABILITIES:

### Detention Days

- Despite the provisions in the bill limiting the use of detention, there is a possibility that a judge may choose to use detention beds in limited cases.