

RISE for Youth Legislative Priorities 2022

Primary Priorities

- Requires small (30 beds or less) juvenile community correctional centers be located within communities where the most committed youth are from. (Healthy Communities, Secure Care).
 - Carried by Del. Ward & Sen. Locke in 2020 (HB551 & SB1033).
 - Currently being studied as part of JLARC's study of the Department of Juvenile Justice.
- Transfer the Department of Juvenile Justice to the Secretary of Public Health & Human Resources (from the Secretary of Public Safety & Homeland Security).
 - Carried through a budget amendment by Del. Hope in 2021 (391 #2h).
- Eliminate the use of the valid court order exception (VCO) to incarcerate youth for non-criminal behavior to include status offenses.
 - Carried by Del. Scott in 2021 (HB2056).
- Eliminate fines & fees charged to youth and their families for justice system involvement, to include costs of confinement, probation counsel, evaluation, and restitution.
 - Builds on HB1912 (Del. Hope 2021) Eliminated 'child support' payments charged to families because their child was committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice
- Prohibit police from lying to youth during interrogation.
- Require youth be provided legal counsel before police interrogation
 - Expands HB746 (Del. Watts 2020)
- Eliminate criminal penalties for youth possession marijuana.
 - Amend HB2312 (Del. Herring 2021)

Supported Priorities

- Expand the use of credible messengers into schools to reduce the reliance on school resource officers for engagement with students for non-criminal behavior.
- End use of solitary confinement.
 - Carried by Sen. Morrissey in 2021 (SB1301).
- Repeal mandatory minimum sentences.
 - Carried by Sen. Edwards in 2021 (SB1443).