



FY2012 RECOMMENDATION/FY12-JJ01 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS PROVIDED TO JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES

Status: Implementation Complete

Actions/Updates

2013 UPDATE

Action on this recommendation was completed with the passage of House Bill 13-1021.

2012 UPDATE

This recommendation requires legislative action.

Description

School boards to provide education and materials to juvenile detention facilities as outlined in the Colorado model content standard* by revising CRS 19-2-402(3)(a) as follows:
The school boards of the school districts that a juvenile detention facility serves or in which the juvenile detention facility is located shall satisfy the requirements as defined by C.R.S. 22-33-104** and shall furnish teachers, materials, and content that are designed to meet the Colorado model content standards.

*A brief explanation of such standards can be found at

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/>.

**C.R.S. 22-33-104 as amended is commonly known as the Compulsory School Attendance Law.

Agencies Responsible

Discussion

*The average stay for a juvenile in detention is 14.2 days.*** The Commission feels that it is important that the education of a juvenile continue during this time period.*

It is also important that such education is standardized enough so that when a juvenile is able to return to school, he or she will be able to continue without disadvantage. Surveys have been sent to eight state-operated detention facilities to assess the uniformity of education provided by the school districts within the catchment area of the detention facilities. Three responses do not show consistency in hours or curriculum.

It is also believed that the existing requirement that the detaining judge request that educational services be provided is unnecessary and obsolete.

The existing statute reads as follows: The school boards of the school districts that a juvenile detention facility serves or in which the juvenile detention facility is located, when requested by the judge of the juvenile court, shall furnish teachers and any books or equipment needed for the proper education of such juveniles as may be present in the juvenile detention facility.

This proposal removes the necessity of requiring the judge to order education. It also clarifies the necessity of the school district to provide appropriate education as currently required by the Colorado model content standards.

Footnotes

****Management Reference Manual, CDHS Office of Children, Youth and Family Services, Division of Youth Corrections, FY 09-10, Page V, January, 2011. Available at: http://www.Colorado.gov/cdhsdyc/Resources-Publications/MRM0910_FINAL.pdf.*