



CO Juvenile Justice Reform Committee: SB19-108

July 28, 2020, 1-3 (Zoom)

Minutes

Committee Members Attending: Allison Boyd, Krista Britton, Shawn Cohn, Stacie Colling, Sheri Danz, Hon. Beth Elliot-Dumler, Sarah Ericson, Anders Jacobson, Pete Lee, Elise Logemann, Dan Makelky, Perry May, Lanie Meyers-Mireles, Jenifer Morgen, Amanda Pennington, Tariq Sheikh, Elaina Schively, Sara Strufing, Senator Lee, Joe Thome, Hon. Doug Walker, Dana Wilks, Tobin Wright, Adam Zarrin

Staff: Kelly Abbott, Gina Vincent, Yaël Coley-Greene, Kate Ferebee, Anna Lopez, Debbie Oldenettel

Guests: Kelli Burmeister (Rep. Michaelson Staff), Erin Crites, Tom Harbaugh, Ellie Perlmutter (Rep. Michaelson Staff), Nina Salomon, Shelley Siman, Glenn Tapia, Josh Webber

Quorum established.

Minutes: Sen. Pete Lee moved to approved June 23, 2020 minutes. Perry May seconded the motion. Approved.

Update from Diversion Working Group and Motions:

- Sarah Ericson presented an update from the working group, and provided two recommendations related to the adoption of the ARNA as the state's diversion risk screening tool for the Committee's approval. In the presentation, Sarah reviewed the goals for initial implementation of a screening tool, or a pilot phase, as well as two challenges that arose during working group discussions – determining the population to be screened, and prosecutors having the ability to complete the screen.
- Questions arose during discussion from JJRC members around the validation of the screening tool for reoffending, as well as for racial bias. The ARNA has been validated in other states on a juvenile justice population, and the tool can be adjusted during and after validation based on Colorado's population.
- JJRC members expressed concern around the population to be screened, particularly the possibility of wasting resources on screening youth that are already on probation or in DYS custody that have committed a new offense, and will most likely not be diverted. This is an area where additional clarification is warranted, and discussions will continue on the best approach to revising language and/or interpretation of which population must be screened.
- Discussion also centered around the implementation timeline for the screening tool, and whether there is wiggle room in the legislative language to allow for additional time for the full statewide rollout due to COVID delays. Reviewing the language, folks agreed that the language in statute can be interpreted to allow for full implementation to take place on or AFTER January 1, 2021.
- Two motions were made by Elaina Shively, and seconded by Sen. Pete Lee, both of which passed a Committee vote:
 - **APPROVED MOTION:** Adopt the recommendation to proceed with an initial implementation (pilot) of the ARNA as the risk screening tool to inform diversion.
 - **APPROVED MOTION:** Support to approve an interpretation of statute that statewide implementation of the risk screening tool will begin after January 2021.

Update from Outcome Measures Working Group

- Dr. Erin Crites provided a brief update to the JJRC. The working group has developed an agreed upon set of system performance measures, and is now working on developing measures that can be used by service providers across systems. The group will meet again in September, after state agencies have had time for coordinated discussions and to develop ideas for the working group's deliberation. The working group will then be ready to present a package of measures for JJRC approval at the October meeting.

Update from Risk Assessment Working Group, Judicial, and the Division of Youth Services

- Shawn Cohn provided an update on the development of juvenile probation standards and implementation of the YLS risk assessment instrument. The risk assessment implementation committee has identified implementation pilot districts (Denver Juvenile, Boulder, and districts 1, 17, 21, and 22) for the YLS and is seeking a second rural district to join. The committee, along with the probations standards working group, has started working on a risk assessment summary template to share information with the court, as well as a case plan template, and then will begin developing early termination criteria. The goal is to pilot these tools/policies and the YLS assessment starting on January 1, 2021.
- Anders Jacobson provided an update on DYS' progress on implementation activities. DYS started training and piloting of the YASI assessment instrument in the southern region, with a full statewide implementation goal of May 2021. They are also working on developing a length of stay matrix/guidelines that will be implemented in coordination with the assessment tool in May 2021. Additionally, a revised JDSAG detention screening instrument is being reviewed by the detention screening working group, with plans to be presented for approval to the CYDC Advisory Board in October, along with a new kinship protocol and template. The revised tool and kinship policies will be presented to the JJRC in a future meeting for feedback.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Steps

- Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 25 1:00-3:00pm MT