

Maine Juvenile Justice Legislative Update 2022

The following is a summary of legislation on youth justice and related reforms enacted or vetoed during the second regular session of the 130th Legislature, which adjourned on May 9, 2022. Unless otherwise provided for in the legislation, regular session bills and resolves are effective on August 8, 2022. Emergency measures are effective when signed by the Governor. The first regular session of the 131st Legislature will convene in December 2022.

Enacted Legislation

LD 756. An Act Regarding Criminal Services for Juveniles. *Sponsored by Representative Victoria Morales*

As introduced:

- Increases investment in programs and services that provide support to system-involved youth in community, including funding for housing, peer-supports, restorative justice, healing and treatment, economic and vocational support, family-focused support, and other reintegration supports.
- Requires the Department of Corrections to contract with an independent service provider to conduct individualized needs assessments of youth in the custody of the department, including any youth placed on community reintegration status.
- Establishes a pilot program that authorizes an independent, nonprofit community-based organization (or collaborative of organizations) to distribute funding to small community-based organizations and similar entities that support community-based services for youth.

As amended:

- Provides funding for school-based restorative justice programs, mentoring services for youth involved in the juvenile legal system, and workforce development and educational or vocational programs for youth involved in the juvenile legal system. Approved by the appropriations committee during consideration of the supplemental budget.

Became law as amended without Governor Mills' signature on May 7, 2022.

LD 1310. An Act Regarding a Post-judgment Motion To Seal the Criminal History Record Information for Certain Criminal Convictions. *Sponsored by Representative Rachel Talbot Ross*

- Reestablishes a special process to seal certain criminal records that was created by Public Law 2015, chapter 354 in a statute that was repealed by its own terms on October 1, 2019. **Became law without Governor Mills' signature on May 1, 2022.**

LD 1904, An Act To Make Technical Corrections to the Maine Juvenile Code. *Sponsored by Representative Thom Harnett*

- Makes technical corrections to the law governing the sealing of juvenile case records to allow for Judicial Branch and State Bureau of Identification practice of electronic notice.

Signed into law by Governor Mills on May 2, 2022.

Failed Legislation

LD 1818, Resolve, To Reestablish and Continue the Work of the Criminal Records Review Committee. *Sponsored by Representative Rachel Talbot Ross*

- Reestablishes the Criminal Records Review Committee and directs it to report to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Died on adjournment, May 9, 2022.

LD 1850, An Act To Provide Funding for the Provision of Services According to the So-called Intensive Care Coordination Using High Fidelity Wraparound Model. *Sponsored by Representative Patricia Hymanson*

- Provides ongoing funding for services according to the Intensive Care Coordination Using High Fidelity Wraparound model to families that are identified as part of a child protective investigation.
- Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to make reasonable efforts to ensure fidelity to the model, including appropriate referrals, and to implement the services to maximize available federal funds, including coordination with other department efforts to implement the model.

Died On Adjournment, May 9, 2022.

LD 1897, An Act To Prevent the Use of Prone and Supine Restraints, Chemical Sprays and Electroshock Devices on Juveniles Held in Department of Corrections Facilities. *Sponsored by Representative Grayson Lookner*

- Prohibits the use of prone and supine restraints, chemical sprays and electroshock devices on youth detained at or committed to a correctional facility that is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections.

Died On Adjournment, May 9, 2022.