



Virginia Commission on Youth 2016 Legislative Studies and Initiatives

THE USE OF SEGREGATION IN VIRGINIA'S JUVENILE DETENTION HOMES AND CORRECTIONAL CENTERS ADOPTED RECOMMENDATIONS IN BLUE

Findings/Conclusions	Adopted Recommendations
<p>Study Mandate During the 2016 General Assembly Session, Senator Favola introduced Senate Bill 215. The substitute version of SB 215 requires the Board of Juvenile Justice to promulgate regulations on the use of room segregation in juvenile detention homes and juvenile correctional facilities that (i) include relevant definitions, criteria for use of room segregation, frequency of required room checks, training requirements for staff, and follow-up requirements after using room segregation; (ii) allow the use of room segregation only when other less restrictive options have been exhausted and for certain purposes; (iii) allow the use of room segregation only for the minimum amount of time required to address the resident's behavior; (iv) provide to the resident a means of communication with staff during room segregation; (v) specify that if a resident in room segregation exhibits self-injurious behavior, when and under what conditions staff shall consult with a mental health professional; and (vi) detail the circumstances under which the director of the juvenile detention home or juvenile correctional facility shall develop a plan for improved behavioral outcomes for the resident.</p> <p>The House Courts of Justice Committee reviewed this legislation and</p>	<p><u>Recommendation 1</u> Request the Board of Juvenile Justice, in consultation with experts in the fields of mental health and juvenile justice and child-rights advocates, to promulgate regulations on the use of room segregation in juvenile correctional facilities and detention homes.</p> <p><u>Recommendation 2</u> Continue to monitor the Department of Juvenile Justice's comprehensive review of the residential requirements for juvenile correctional centers and secure juvenile detention centers which began in the summer of 2016, and request presentation updates from the department as needed.</p>

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<p>it was laid on the table. The Commission on Youth received a letter from the Chair of the House Courts of Justice Committee requesting a review of the bill and the concept it addresses and to make recommendations prior to the 2017 General Assembly Session.</p> <p>Study Finding Segregation in Virginia's juvenile detention centers and correctional centers is used to address resident and staff safety, facility security, resident discipline, and acute mental health issues of certain residents. Virginia's current regulations on room confinement, isolation and administrative segregation/confinement provide the rules for the use of segregation.</p>	