



DEPARTMENT OF  
JUVENILE SERVICES

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Date: February 21, 2024  
Bill Number/Title: SB 636 Juvenile Law – Commission to Study the Ability of the Department of Juvenile Services to Provide Effective Social Services to Juvenile Offenders  
Committee: Judicial Proceedings  
DJS Position: Letter of Information

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SB 636 creates a commission to study the ability of the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) to provide effective services to juveniles in its care and custody. The commission is to report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2025.

First, DJS is committed to working with stakeholders to ensure youth in its care and custody have access to effective community-based and residential services and programming. To that end, DJS supports the creation of a commission to review data and identify opportunities to provide effective services to young people involved in the justice system.

Lastly, SB744 creates a more expansive commission by merging two existing entities: DJS's State Advisory Board (SAB) and the Evidence Based Services Commission. This new commission, titled The Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform and Emerging Best Practices, would be required to meet at least 6 times a year, review multiple data sources, and study a number of issues that have been outlined in SB 636.

