

Aruna Miller
Lt. GovernorWes Moore
GovernorVincent Schiraldi
Secretary

Date: February 26, 2025
Bill Number/Title: HB 658 - Juvenile Services Education Board – Alterations
Committee: Judiciary & Ways and Means
DJS Position: Support

The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) supports HB 658 as it strengthens the governance and oversight of juvenile services education by providing flexibility in board representation and enhancing operational efficiency. Allowing the Secretary of Higher Education and the State Superintendent of Schools to designate representatives ensures that the Juvenile Services Education Board benefits from consistent and informed leadership.

Additionally, modifying board member terms and meeting requirements promotes greater stability and adaptability, allowing the board to function more effectively in addressing the unique educational needs of justice-involved youth. A well-structured and responsive Juvenile Services Education Board is essential to ensuring high-quality, equitable education for young people in the juvenile justice system, supporting their rehabilitation and long-term success.

For these reasons, DJS requests a favorable report on HB 658.

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