

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of HB 1674

Allowing Youthful Offenders Who Complete their Confinement Terms Prior to Age Twenty-One Equal Access to a Full Continuum of Rehabilitative and Reentry Services

Evidence indicates that HB 1674 has potential to improve health outcomes and decrease recidivism for youthful offenders convicted as adults; which in turn has potential to decrease health disparities for this population as well as disparities by race/ethnicity.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Representatives Pettigrew, Walsh, Goodman, Walkinshaw, Kagi, Appleton, Reykdal, Moscoso, Ormsby, McBride, Jinkins

Summary of Bill:

- Provides the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) with custody of youth who are convicted as adults and expected to complete their term of confinement before their 21st birthday.
- Provides that while in the custody of DSHS youth convicted as adults shall have the same access to services and programming as youth convicted in juvenile court.
- Provides that the Department of Corrections (DOC) will maintain custody authority over youth who are convicted as adults whose terms of confinement are set to end after they turn 21. The DOC, with the consent of the Secretary of DSHS, will transfer the child to a DSHS facility until they turn 21, at which time they must be returned to a DOC facility. These youth need approval from DOC to take any leave from a DSHS facility.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This health impact review found the following evidence regarding the provisions in HB 1674:

- Strong evidence that placing youthful offenders convicted as adults in DSHS custody and providing access to adolescent specific services would likely improve health outcomes for these youth.
- Strong evidence that placing youthful offenders convicted as adults in DSHS custody and providing access to adolescent specific services would likely reduce recidivism among these youth.
- Very strong evidence that reducing recidivism for youth convicted as adults would likely improve health outcomes these youth.
- Very strong evidence that improving health outcomes for youth convicted as adults would likely decrease health disparities.

FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full health impact review: <http://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2015-06-HB1674.pdf>

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