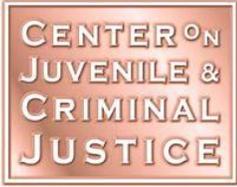


Did you attend the hearings?



Juvenile justice legislative update

We have moved: CJCJ's new main office address is [40 Boardman Place](#), San Francisco, CA 94103. Drop by and see our new residence!

::IN THE CAPITOL::

First legislative hearings on juvenile justice realignment call for more detailed transitional plan from Governor

Budget sub-committees on public safety hear testimony promoting a staggered realignment plan and all agree that DJF is a failed model.

The [Senate](#) and Assembly budget sub-committees on public safety met on March 22 and 28th respectively, to discuss the Governor's plan for full juvenile justice realignment. The Department of Finance indicated that the January plan was "intentionally vague" as they hope to work closely with stakeholders to develop a more detailed plan for the May revise. CJCJ, the Legislative Analyst's Office, Commonweal Institute, and the Ella Baker Center all provided testimony describing various different ways create a more detailed plan, including a staggered and transitional approach to allow time for counties to adequately prepare for the new responsibilities.

All agreed that currently DJF is not a workable model for the provision juvenile justice and that any form of realignment must be accompanied by a thoughtful and well-developed implementation plan that includes sustainable funding, oversight, and assistance to counties.

The Chief Probation Officers of California continue to oppose the Governor's plan for juvenile justice realignment, despite recognizing that DJF does not provide adequate care to its wards. It will now be up to the Governor to engage with stakeholders to build a detailed and reasonable plan in the updated budget.

For more a more detailed review of the hearings, especially the **excellent public comments provided by California youth** read these blogs:

- ~ [California Senate](#)
- ~ [California Assembly](#)

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the hearings. Your invaluable perspectives and support made a big impact on the legislators and demonstrated the public demand for more effective use of our juvenile justice dollars.

For more information on the juvenile justice realignment debate, take a look at these:

- ~ [Selena Teji discusses juvenile justice realignment on KRON 4](#)
- ~ [Will Roy recounts his experience in DJF and why it prompted him to speak out](#)

Do you want to take action? Sign our advocacy letter to tell the Governor [you support juvenile justice realignment!](#)

Education is a key factor in determining the success of youth exiting the justice system.

::EDUCATION POLICY::

[Senate Bill 1088](#) passes Senate Committee vote; moves on to Appropriations

Bill prohibiting schools from denying enrollment to a pupil solely on basis of contact with juvenile justice system receives unanimous vote in favor.

Senate Bill 1088 (Price) was presented to the Senate Committee on Education on March 28, 2012 and passed 8-0 with 3 members not voting. The bill addresses a pivotal barrier to justice-involved youth, prohibiting schools from refusing their enrollment based solely on their involvement with the justice system.

Access to the education system is one of the key factors that determine a young person's success, and timely re-enrollment in school after a period of confinement can be the difference between a youth succeeding or re-offending. Testimony from youth who had travelled through the night from Los Angeles County to attend the hearing demonstrated the challenging situation that youths often encounter upon re-entry to their community. Youth testified that in the current system there is often a long period of time between being released and being able to re-enroll in school, due to delays in transfer of records and schools refusal to accept them back. This results in idle time in which youth are left with little to do except "hit the streets."

CJCJ's Research Fellow Randall Shelden recently discussed some of these issues in his video blog, [School-to-prison pipeline](#).

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