

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 17, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 1589

Introduced by Senator Romero

February 24, 2006

An act to add Section 1756.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to the Division of Juvenile Justice.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1589, as amended, Romero. Division of Juvenile Justice: specialized programming.

The Division of Juvenile Justice is vested with all the powers, functions, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction of the former Youth Authority. The Division of Juvenile Justice consists of the Division of Juvenile Facilities, the Division of Juvenile Programs, and the Division of Juvenile Parole Operations under the Chief Deputy of Juvenile Justice, each headed by a chief who is appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate confirmation.

This bill would require the Division of Juvenile Justice to explore options to provide specialized programming outside of division facilities for high risk or high need juvenile offenders, taking into account availability and specified criterion. ~~On or before January 1, 2008, the~~ *The bill would further require the division to give priority for the placement of female offenders with governmental agencies or, if unavailable, to report alternatives to the Legislature at that time. The bill would also require the division to transfer all female offenders out of division facilities as expeditiously as possible.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1756.5 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:

3 1756.5. (a) The Division of Juvenile Justice shall explore
4 options to provide specialized programming outside of division
5 facilities for high risk or high need offenders, if programming is
6 available. Specialized programs for these offenders shall take
7 into account commitment offenses, delinquency history, age,
8 gender, medical and mental health condition, risk levels, and any
9 other commitment criteria.

10 (b) The Division of Juvenile Justice may also consider
11 changes with respect to eligibility, age, jurisdiction, or length of
12 confinement in order to ensure quality programming within
13 division facilities.

14 (c) Given the small number of female offenders and their
15 specialized needs, the Division of Juvenile Justice shall explore
16 options to provide programming for female offenders outside of
17 division facilities. ~~On or before January 1, 2008, the~~ *In*
18 *considering these options, the division shall give priority for the*
19 *placement of female offenders to governmental agencies or, if*
20 *those options are not appropriate or available for the placement*
21 *of female offenders, the division shall report any and all other*
22 *alternatives to the Legislature at that time. The division shall*
23 *transfer all female offenders out of division facilities as*
24 *expediently as possible.*