SECURED RESIDENTIAL CARE CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

2017 Wisconsin Act 185

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2017 Wisconsin Act 185: Overview

- Requires the Wisconsin Department of Corrections to close the Lincoln Hills and Copper Lakes schools no later than January 1, 2021.
- Requires counties to establish new secured residential care centers for children and youth (SRCC's) by January 1, 2021.
- Creates a Juvenile Corrections Study Committee to establish rules for new facilities and Juvenile Corrections Grant Committee to distribute funding for new facilities.
- Provides a total of \$80 million in funding for new SRCC's, new state-owned juvenile correctional facilities, and an expansion of the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (MJTC).
- Expands available uses for Youth Aids funding and gives a bonus of up to \$750,000 in Youth Aids funding to counties that house an SRCC.

Dispositional Orders: Type 1 juvenile correctional facilities

- Juveniles who are sentenced in adult court.
 - Certain acts grant original jurisdiction in adult court under s. 938.183
- If they are placed in the Serious Juvenile Offender Program under s. 938.34 (4h):
 - Certain offenses qualify for SJOP if the court finds that the juvenile would otherwise qualify for disposition under (4m).

- Prior to Act 185: "Correctional Placement" under s. 938.34 (4m):
 - The juvenile has been found to be delinquent for the commission of an act that would be punishable by a sentence of 6 months or more if committed by an adult, and
 - The juvenile has been found to be a danger to the public and to be in need of restrictive custodial treatment.

Secured residential care centers for children and youth

- Under Act 185, Juveniles are sent to an SRCC under county supervision under a "correctional placement" under s. 938.34 (4m).
- After January 1, 2021, DOC will only have supervision over juveniles if they are tried in adult court or are placed in the SJOP program.
- After January 1, 2021, juveniles under DOC supervision will go to new state-run Type
 1 juvenile correctional facilities

Secured residential care centers for children and youth

- Required facility plan approval by DOC
- Will need to provide programming and services that meet standards established by DOC by rule.
- Counties may apply for grants from the state to fund 95% of their construction costs.
- Operational costs paid for by the county placing a juvenile in the facility through a contracted arrangement with the county that owns and operates the facility, similar to the daily rate model with Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake currently.
- Counties that house a facility for females will be guaranteed no net operating loss.
- Existing juvenile detention centers that have extended programs (beyond 30 days) will be grandfathered in as SRCC's and will need to meet the requirements for SRCC's.

Eligible juvenile detention facilities

- Certain existing juvenile detention facilities will become secured residential care centers for children and youth on January 1, 2021:
 - If they run a program for holding youth securely beyond 30 days, pursuant to an adoption of a county board resolution passed prior to January 1, 2018.
 - These eligible juvenile detention facilities will need to meet the standards and requirements established by DOC rules for SRCC's.
- Juveniles placed in eligible juvenile detention facilities under 938.34 (3) (f) of the statutes prior to January 1, 2021, can remain there under that disposition, but placements to these facilities after January 1, 2021 will be under s. 938.34 (4m).

Juvenile corrections committees

Study Committee

- 25-member committee
- Recommendations for rules pertaining to the services and programming provided by SRCC's.
- Recommendations for the location and design of Type 1 Juvenile Correctional Facilities.
- Committee dissolves on 1/1/2021.

Grant Committee

- 10-member committee
- Issues RFP for grant proposals from counties.
- Works with applicants to refine proposals.
- Recommends funding to JCF of grants.
- Committee dissolves after projects are funded or on 1/1/2021, whichever is earlier.



