

MAR 9 2005
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 668
BY FORD

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for establishment of a task force to study the
2 creation of a single state department with responsibility for
3 juvenile justice services and programs and including an
4 effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 668

1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES TASK FORCE.

2 1. The governor shall establish a task force to conduct a
3 comprehensive review of the existing juvenile justice services
4 and programs available for youth who are alleged to have
5 committed a delinquent act or have been adjudicated as having
6 committed a delinquent act. The purpose of the review is to
7 determine whether the outcomes for such youth can be improved
8 by creation of a single state department with responsibility
9 for juvenile justice services and programs or by another
10 approach. The review may consider the funding mechanisms for
11 the services and programs, agencies involved with service and
12 program delivery, areas of overlap, and the approaches used
13 and experiences of other states in administering juvenile
14 justice programs.

15 2. The membership of the task force shall include
16 representatives of agencies that provide direct services
17 targeted to youth, including but not limited to the
18 departments of education, human services, public health, and
19 public safety; the division of criminal and juvenile justice
20 planning of the department of human rights; juvenile court
21 services; the judicial branch; and juvenile justice services
22 providers and juvenile justice services advocates.

23 3. The task force shall submit a final report to the
24 governor and general assembly on or before December 15, 2005,
25 containing recommendations, fiscal analyses, and other
26 information deemed pertinent by the task force.

27 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
28 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill directs the governor to establish a task force to
31 conduct a comprehensive review of juvenile justice services.
32 The purpose of the review is to determine whether the outcomes
33 for youth would be improved by creation of a separate state
34 department for youth services or by other means. The bill
35 provides for the task force's membership and a report deadline

1 of December 15, 2005.

2 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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