Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Legislative Timeline*

1974

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) of 1974 was signed into law (Pub. L. No. 93-415, 42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) on September 7, 1974.

• The JJDPA created an Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) within the DOJ Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) now the Office of Justice Programs.

• Created the Title II Formula Grants program.

• Established the Sight and Sound Separation core requirement.

• Established the deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) core requirement.

• Created the inter-agency Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

1977

JJDPA modified (Pub. L. No. 95-115) with the following amendments:

• Increased and expanded requirements for DSO and sight and sound separation core requirements.

• Emphasized prevention and treatment.

• Provided that 5% of minimum allotment be made available to State Advisory Groups (SAGs).

1980

JJDPA modified (Pub. L. No. 96-509) with the following amendments:

• Established the Jail Removal core requirement.

• Adopted valid court order (VCO) exception to DSO core requirement.

• Established OJJDP as a separate entity within the new DOJ Office of Justice Assistance, Research and Statistics and removing it from under the LEAA.

1984

JJDPA modified (Pub. L. No. 98-473) with the following amendments:

• Created the Office of Justice Programs within DOJ to replace the Office of Justice Assistance, Research and Statistics.

• Enhanced and amended the Jail Removal and DSO core requirements by further defining the VCO Exception and providing more details for the Rural Exception.

• The Missing Children's Assistance Act was added as Title IV under the JJDPA and called for the creation of a national toll-free line to report information regarding the location of a missing child and established a national resource center and clearinghouse to provide technical assistance to law enforcement, families and other stakeholders in locating and recovering missing children.

1988

JJDPA modified (Pub. L. No. 100-690) with the following amendments:

• Added a requirement for States to submit a plan to address the overrepresentation of minorities in secure detention/correctional facilities, jails and lockups. (i.e., Disproportionate Minority Confinement).

• Established a new (under Part D) program to provide prevention and treatment programs relating to youth gangs, drug abuse, and drug trafficking.

1992

JJDPA modified (Pub. L. No. 102-586) with the following amendments:

• Amended DSO, jail removal, and separation core requirements.

• Elevated DMC to a core requirement.

• Established Title V - Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs to support delinquency prevention programs and activities for youth who have had or are at risk of contact with the juvenile justice system.

• Emphasized prevention and treatment, family strengthening, graduated sanctions, and risk/need assessments.

2002

JJDPA modified (Pub. L. No. 107-273) with the following amendments:

• Broadened the scope of the DMC core requirement from "disproportionate minority confinement" to "disproportionate minority contact".

• Reauthorized Title II Formula Grants Program.

2018

The Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA) of 2018 was signed into law (Pub. L. No. 115-385), reauthorizing and substantially amending the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 on December 21, 2018.

• The JJRA added program areas that states may support with Title II formula grant funds, including,

(1) legal representation for juveniles;

(2) informing juveniles of the opportunity for records expungement and sealing, and providing them with assistance;

(3) addressing the needs of girls in or at risk of entering the juvenile justice system; and

(4) monitoring for compliance with core requirements and providing training and technical assistance on the core requirements to secure facilities.