

Committee on Criminal Justice

CS/CS/HB 7059 — Juvenile Justice

by Judiciary Committee; Justice Appropriations Subcommittee; Criminal Justice Subcommittee; and Rep. Grant, J. and others (CS/SB 1670 by Appropriations Committee and Senator Latvala)

The bill makes numerous changes that increase the use of secure detention for juveniles. Specifically, the bill:

- Creates the designation of a “prolific juvenile offender”;
- Requires that children who meet the criteria for the designation of “prolific juvenile offender” be held in detention until disposition;
- Requires the court to place a child who is adjudicated and awaiting placement in a commitment program in secure detention until the child is placed in a commitment program;
- Requires that the period for detention be tolled on the date the Department of Juvenile Justice alleges the child has violated a condition of his or her detention until the court enters a ruling on the violation;
- Requires a “prolific juvenile offender’s” adjudicatory hearing be held within 45 days after the child is taken into custody;
- Waives the fees the Department of Health charges for certified birth certificates for juvenile offenders in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice;
- Creates an exception to allow a person who has an adjudication of delinquency for a felony offense and has his or her criminal history record expunged pursuant to s. 943.0515(1)(b), F.S., to qualify to lawfully possess a firearm;
- Specifies that the bill fulfills an important state interest; and
- Appropriates, for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, \$2,978,012 in recurring funds and \$2,978,012 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Juvenile Justice for the purpose of implementing the bill.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2017.

Vote: Senate 34-1; House 119-0