



# JJDPA BRIEF

A SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES  
AND IMPACTS OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND  
DELINQUENCY PREVENTION  
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025



# Introduction

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) is providing this brief as a resource for identifying and understanding proposed changes to the JJDPRA.

CJJ is a nationwide network of State Advisory Groups (SAGs) and dedicated allies committed to preventing youth involvement in the justice system, while ensuring the highest standards of care and fairness for those who are charged with wrongdoing.

For more information, visit <https://juvjustice.org>.

This resource provides an outline of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act (JJDPRA) or Senate Bill SS.2248 and explores the potential impacts of each revised section on Title II administrators and implementors in the states, territories, and the District of Columbia.

The full bill text can be reviewed [here](#).

## Section 1 - Changes the name of the bill



### Change:

Sets the short title of the bill as the “Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2025.”

### Impact:

No impact other than naming of the bill.

## Section 2(a) - Adds adult prisons to monitoring universe



### Change:

Changes the definition of “jail or lockup for adults” to clarify that the term covers adult prisons, ensuring that protections for youth apply to youth held in adult prisons. Terminology also changed in section 2(b)(1)(D-G) and section 2(b)(1)(H).

### Impact:

States would add adult prisons to their monitoring universe. States should consider data collection needs, developing points of contacts, and any existing resources that could support the monitoring of these facilities (e.g., PREA audits).

## Section 2(b)(1)(A) - Adds SAG requirement flexibility



### Change 1:

Replaces “provide for an advisory group that—” with “provide satisfactory evidence that the State agency has established and maintained, or is working toward establishing and maintaining, an advisory group that—”. This change ensures that states do not lose federal funding solely because a state advisory group is temporarily, or due to reasonable circumstances, unable to meet all membership requirements.

### Impact:

States would not be found out of compliance for temporarily not meeting SAG membership requirements.

### Change 2:

Sets SAG youth membership age limit at 28 years old.

### Impact:

States who are currently counting people over the age of 28 as youth members will have to appoint new youth members that are under the age of 28. This does not necessarily require removal of current members that are designated as youth members but are above age 28. Those members could be designated as fulfilling a different SAG membership role, but such individuals would no longer qualify as youth members.

## Section 2(b)(1)(B) - Increases funding area flexibility



### Change 1:

Improves states' ability to use funds flexibly to address their local needs by eliminating the requirement that at least 75% of funds be used for enumerated programs, replacing it with a requirement that funds be used "in accordance with" states' 3-year plans, and changes the enumerated programs from required activities to examples of permissible activities.

### Change 2:

Expands the list of eligible programs, allowing states to invest more broadly in probation services, alternatives to incarceration, practices focused on repairing harm to victims, programs that expand juvenile justice personnel knowledge of diversion programs, and adds to the list of enumerated programs to address racial and ethnic disparities in accordance with existing core requirements, collect data on the socioeconomic status of youth in the juvenile justice system, divert youth from the justice system, and any other programs intended to support the states' compliance with existing core requirements.

### Impacts:

States would not be as limited on the program areas they choose to spend their Title II funds on. It would eliminate limitations on spending on "Other Activities" as described in [OJJDP Solicitation Documents](#), such as diversion programs.

## Section 2(b)(1)(C) - (a)(11)(b) to jail removal, VCO phase out



### Change 1:

Reorganizes existing language to place related provisions next to one another. Existing 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(11)(B) is moved to become § 11133(a)(14), and § 11133(a)(23) is moved to become § 11133(a)(11)(B).

### Impact:

Moving (a)(11)(B) may impact compliance determinations. Currently, states report violations of interest of justice hearing requirements to DSO. This change would mean that it will now be reported under the Jail Removal requirement. States previously out of compliance with DSO for any combination of DSO violations and/or IOJ hearing violations may now have two separate non-compliance issues.

### Change 2:

This section also requires the phase out of the valid court order exception in paragraph (23) by September 30, 2028, with a time-limited exception for juveniles held in accordance with the Interstate Compact for Juveniles when no suitable, less restrictive alternatives are available.

### Impact:

States would need to phase out VCO use by 2028 (with an interstate compact exception).

## Section 2(b)(1)(D-G) - Change to section numbers



### **Change:**

Existing 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(11)(B) is moved to become § 11133(a)(14), and § 11133(a)(23) is moved to become § 11133(a)(11)(B).

### **Impact:**

No anticipated impact, just a renumbering.

## Section 2(b)(1)(H) - Eliminates OJJDP reporting exception



### **Change:**

This section also eliminates an exception to required reporting requirements related to state compliance with existing core requirements that makes it difficult for the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to monitor such compliance.

### **Impact:**

It will make it easier for OJJDP to monitor compliance.

## Section 2(b)(1)(I) - R/ED program competency



### **Change:**

Requires that state policy, practice, and system improvement strategies aimed at reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system be "culturally and linguistically competent" to ensure that such strategies are tailored toward the local communities they aim to serve.

### **Impact:**

States will need to ensure their R/ED programs take language and culture into account.

## Section 2(b)(1)(J) - Aligns JJDPa with nondiscrimination laws



### Change:

Updates existing requirement that youth be treated fairly on the basis of varied demographic statuses to align with federal nondiscrimination law.

### Impact:

States adhering to JJDPa will also be required to adhere to other federal nondiscrimination laws.

## Section 2(b)(1)(K) - Eliminates a not-applicable provision



### Change:

Strikes an outdated and no longer applicable provision of existing law.

### Impact:

No change to state operations.

## Section 2(b)(1)(L) - Redesignates paragraphs



### Change:

Redesignates existing provisions to align with updated organization.

### Impact:

No Change to state operations.

## Section 2(b)(1)(M) - Increases staff training requirements



### Change:

Strengthens existing supervision and training requirements for state juvenile corrections staff to include "ongoing supervision" and "trauma-informed approaches to investigating allegations of sexual and physical abuse" to enhance safety and protection of youth in state facilities.

### Impact:

States would need to ensure supervision and corrections staff training requirements are met.

## Section 2(b)(1)(N) - Increases human trafficking screenings



### **Change:**

Increases the cadence of youth screening for domestic human trafficking exposure or risk. In addition to screening at intake, screening must be completed "quarterly or as needed" to ensure continuous monitoring and appropriate response if a youth's circumstances change.

### **Impact:**

States will have to increase human trafficking screenings to at least quarterly.

## Section 2(b)(2) - Eliminates non-compliant state loophole



### **Change:**

Eliminates a reference to a repealed and no longer applicable provision of existing law and eliminates a loophole allowing entities in states that are not in compliance with the JJDP Act or are not monitoring and reporting on the core requirements to OJJDP to continue to receive program funding. Instead, such agencies can continue to receive such funding only if the state makes a showing of exigent circumstances and in no event for more than 2 consecutive years.

### **Impact:**

States and territories must monitor and report on the core requirements and provide for an effective system of monitoring to receive Title II funding.

## Section 2(c) - Reauthorization of Title II, V, & PROMISE grants



### **Change:**

Technical and conforming amendments. Section 2(d). Reauthorizes Title II State Formula grants and Title V Youth PROMISE grants and Tribal Youth grants through Fiscal Year 2030.

### **Impact:**

Title II, Title V, and PROMISE grants will be available to the states through 2030.