

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FINAL BILL ANALYSIS**

<b>BILL #:</b>	CS/CS/HB 7059	<b>FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION:</b>		
<b>SUBJECT/SHORT TITLE</b>	Juvenile Justice	119	Y's 0	N's
<b>SPONSOR(S):</b>	Judiciary Committee; Justice Appropriations Subcommittee; Criminal Justice Subcommittee; Grant; and others	<b>GOVERNOR'S ACTION:</b>	Approved	
<b>COMPANION BILLS:</b>	CS/SB 1670			

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**SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

CS/CS HB 7059 passed the House on April 28, 2017. The bill was amended by the Senate on May 2, 2017, and returned to the House. The House concurred in the Senate amendment to the House Bill and subsequently passed the bill as amended on May 5, 2017. The bill amends various provisions of law relating to juvenile justice.

To address recidivism occurring when a juvenile delinquent is returned to the community while new charges are pending or while the juvenile is awaiting placement in a residential program, the bill:

- Establishes criteria to identify a narrow class of repeat delinquents, referred to as "Prolific Juvenile Offenders," who must be placed in nonsecure or secure detention until the disposition of their pending cases;
- Requires secure detention for a delinquent awaiting placement in a nonsecure residential program;
- Provides that nonsecure detention periods are tolled on the date a violation of detention is alleged; and
- Specifies that days served in any type of detention before a violation of detention do not count toward current law's 21-day and 15-day detention limits, so that detention may be continued by the court after a violation.

The bill also requires the Department of Health to waive the fee for birth certificates provided to certain delinquents and creates an exception to allow a person who has had an adjudication of delinquency for a felony expunged to possess a firearm.

Finally, the bill specifies that it fulfills an important state interest and appropriates \$5,956,024 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Juvenile Justice for implementation of the bill during Fiscal Year 2017-2018. The bill will also have a fiscal impact on local governments. Please see "FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT," *infra*.

The bill was approved by the Governor on June 23, 2017, ch. 2017-164, L.O.F., and will become effective on October 1, 2017.

## I. SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION

### A. EFFECT OF CHANGES:

#### Present Situation

Statistics from the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), based on Fiscal Years (FYs) 2007-08 through 2013-14, indicate for juveniles arrested or referred to DJJ that:

- Fifty-five percent have been previously referred to DJJ for a felony.
- Almost 29 percent have been previously referred to DJJ for a felony against a person or a firearm/weapon charge.
- Fifteen percent have been previously referred to DJJ at least four times.<sup>1</sup>

A news story reported last year by the Tampa Bay Times highlights the tragic consequences that can occur when juveniles are not prevented from reoffending. In the case reported, two 15-year-old girls and one 16-year-old girl were killed while fleeing officers in a stolen vehicle. Collectively, the three girls had been arrested for motor vehicle theft seven times during the previous year.<sup>2</sup>

Juvenile motor vehicle theft is a crime that has been rapidly increasing statewide. According to Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) statistics for the first half of 2016, there were 1,484 arrests of juveniles throughout the state for motor vehicle theft, which represented a 38.2 percent increase over such juvenile arrests for motor vehicle theft during the same period in the previous year.<sup>3</sup>

This increase seems to have particularly affected the Tampa area where law enforcement officials have called juvenile motor vehicle theft an “epidemic,” estimating that in some areas more than half of stolen cars are taken by those younger than 18 years of age.<sup>4</sup> In 2015, St. Petersburg police officers made 461 arrests for auto thefts and of that number, 316 or 68 percent were juveniles. During the same period, Tampa police officers arrested 133 people for auto theft and of that number, 62 or 46 percent were juveniles.<sup>5</sup> Of particular concern to law enforcement in this region is the fact that officers are reporting multiple encounters with the same juvenile offender because such offenders are often released under current law from custody within 24 hours after arrest, giving them the opportunity to reoffend even before the resolution of the original charge.<sup>6, 7</sup>

Law enforcement officers and crime analysts from nine different agencies in the Tampa region formed a program in June 2016, entitled “Habitual Offender Monitoring Enforcement,” to provide intensive surveillance and monitoring of a list of approximately 175 chronic juvenile reoffenders in the region. These juveniles have at least five felony arrests and are on court-ordered home detention with

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<sup>1</sup> FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE, *Briefing Report – Analysis of Serious, Violent, & Chronic Delinquency in Florida – UPDATED- January 2015*, [http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/research2/briefing\\_report-serious\\_violent\\_and\\_chronic\\_offenders-\(mg-final\).pdf?sfvrsn=2](http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/research2/briefing_report-serious_violent_and_chronic_offenders-(mg-final).pdf?sfvrsn=2), (last viewed April 4, 2017).

<sup>2</sup> Kristen Mitchell, *Death of Three Teens Spotlights an Increase in Car Thefts by Juveniles*, April 1, 2016, TAMPA BAY TIMES, available at <http://www.tbo.com/news/crime/death-of-three-teens-spotlights-increase-in-car-thefts-by-juveniles-20160401/> (last viewed March 2, 2017)(reporting on the deaths of three juveniles who died in March 2016, while fleeing officers in a stolen car and who collectively had seven prior arrests for motor vehicle theft in the past year).

<sup>3</sup> FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, *Uniform Crime Report, Arrest Total Comparative Date, State of Florida, January-June 2016*, [www.fdle.state.fl.us/cms/FSAC/UCR/2016/2016SA\\_Arrest\\_Comparative.aspx](http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/cms/FSAC/UCR/2016/2016SA_Arrest_Comparative.aspx) (last viewed April 4, 2017).

<sup>4</sup> Dan Sullivan, *Juveniles are the driving force behind stolen vehicles in Tampa Bay*, TAMPA BAY TIMES (April 9, 2016), <http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/crime/juveniles-are-the-driving-force-behind-stolen-vehicles-in-tampa-bay/2272616> (last viewed March 6, 2017).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> Zachary T. Sampson, *St. Petersburg police warn of ‘alarming spike’ in car thefts and burglaries*, TAMPA BAY TIMES (January 30, 2015), <http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/st-petersburg-police-warn-of-alarming-spike-in-car-thefts-and-burglaries/2215782>.

<sup>7</sup> See also Eric Glasser, *Boy, 12, Arrested 20 Times. Now What?,”* WTSP, Dec. 15, 2015, available at <http://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/crime/2015/12/15/st-petersburg-12-arrested-felon-youth-services-frustrated-programs/77381076/> (last viewed March 2, 2017)(reporting on an 12-year-old auto theft suspect who had been arrested 20 times previously with 12 of the arrests for felony offenses).

electronic monitoring. In some cases, the juveniles have committed more than 20 offenses.<sup>8</sup> Additionally, officials for Pinellas, Pasco, and Hillsborough formed a committee in August 2016, consisting of sheriffs, chiefs, state attorneys, judges, DJJ staff, and others, to review the issue of juvenile recidivists. The committee concluded that statutory changes were needed to ensure that a narrow class of juvenile offenders with a history of multiple prior offenses is securely detained when arrested for new offenses so that the juveniles do not have the opportunity to reoffend.<sup>9</sup>

### **Eligibility for Pre-Adjudicatory Juvenile Detention**

Florida law provides special procedural rules relating to the detention of a child alleged to have committed a delinquent act or violation of law. A child who is taken into custody and placed into secure<sup>10</sup> or nonsecure<sup>11</sup> detention must appear before a court within 24 hours of his or her arrest for a detention hearing.<sup>12</sup>

Whether the child is subject to detention care pending the detention hearing is determined by the DJJ through the use of a risk assessment instrument (RAI), except in two circumstances.<sup>13</sup> Statute requires secure detention until the child's detention hearing if the child:

- Is charged with possessing or discharging a firearm on school property.<sup>14</sup>
- Has been taken into custody on three or more separate occasions within a 60-day period.<sup>15</sup>

The purpose of a detention hearing is for the judge to determine the existence of probable cause that the child has committed the delinquent act or violation of law that he or she has been charged with and to determine the need for continued detention.<sup>16</sup>

Generally, the court determines the placement of a child utilizing the results of the RAI. The RAI contains information regarding a child's history of: prior offenses, including, but not limited to, unlawful firearm possession, theft of a motor vehicle, or possession of a stolen vehicle; prior failures to appear; offenses committed pending adjudication; the probation status of the child at the time they are taken into custody; and other appropriate aggravating or mitigating circumstances.<sup>17</sup> Completion of the RAI by the DJJ results in points that determine whether and what type of detention care should be imposed:

- Zero to six points indicate that the child should be released.
- Seven to 11 points indicate that the child should be placed on nonsecure detention.
- Twelve or more points indicate that the child should be placed in secure detention.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Mary McGuire, *New Pinellas County program aims to curb juvenile repeat offenders*, June 14, 2016, News Channel 8 on Your Side, <http://wfla.com/2016/06/14/new-pinellas-county-program-aims-to-curb-juvenile-repeat-offenders/> (last visited March 4, 2017); Evan Axlebank, *Program targets report-offender teens*, Fox 13 (June 14, 2016) <http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/159484648-story> (last visited March 5, 2017).

<sup>9</sup> Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, *Prolific Juvenile Offender Recommendation PowerPoint*, October 4, 2016 (on file with Justice Appropriations Subcommittee).

<sup>10</sup> Section 985.03, F.S., defines "secure detention" to mean "temporary care of a child while the child is under the physical restriction of a secure detention center or facility pending adjudication, disposition, or placement."

<sup>11</sup> Section 985.03, F.S., defines "nonsecure detention" to mean "temporary, nonsecure custody of the child while the child is released to the custody of the parent, guardian, or custodian in a physically nonrestrictive environment under the supervision of the department staff pending adjudication, disposition, or placement. Forms of nonsecure detention include, but are not limited to, home detention, electronic monitoring, day reporting centers, evening reporting centers, and nonsecure shelters. Nonsecure detention may include other requirements imposed by the court."

<sup>12</sup> s. 985.255(1), F.S.

<sup>13</sup> s. 985.25(1)(a), F.S.

<sup>14</sup> s. 985.25(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

<sup>16</sup> s. 985.255(3)(a), F.S.

<sup>17</sup> *See* s. 985.245(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>18</sup> Rule 63D-8, F.A.C. (DJJ Detention Risk Assessment Instrument).

In most cases, the court must use the RAI results to determine whether to release the child or place him or her in nonsecure or secure detention; however, in the following circumstances use of the RAI is not required:

- If the child is charged with committing an offense of domestic violence<sup>19</sup> and the judge makes written findings that alternative temporary care for the child is not available or that secure detention is necessary to protect the victim from injury, the court may place the child in secure detention for up to 72 hours in advance of the next scheduled court hearing, notwithstanding the RAI.<sup>20</sup>
- If the child is charged with possession of a firearm on school property, discharge of a firearm on school property, or illegal possession of a firearm, the court may order the child to secure detention, notwithstanding the RAI.<sup>21</sup>

Additionally, the court may order a child to a placement more restrictive than indicated by the RAI if the court states, in writing, clear and convincing reasons for such placement.<sup>22</sup>

DJJ operates 21 secure detention facilities with 1,302 beds in 21 counties. During FY 2015-16, 15,142 juveniles were placed in secure detention, 11,463 juveniles were placed on nonsecure detention, and 2,803 were placed on nonsecure detention with electronic monitoring. There are three county-operated detention centers in Marion, Polk, and Seminole counties.

During FY 2015-16, the average daily population in state-operated secure detention centers was 953 youth and the average length of stay was 12 days. There were 26,829 admissions and 5,653 transfers in Florida's 21 state-operated secure detention centers. The first placement into a detention facility per arrest (referral) is counted as the admission. Any subsequent placements in detention on the same arrest are counted as transfers.<sup>23</sup>

#### *Effect of the Bill on Eligibility for Pre-Adjudicatory Juvenile Detention*

The bill amends s. 985.255, F.S., relating to the criteria to be considered by the court at a detention hearing, to add new criteria under which a child is classified as a "Prolific Juvenile Offender" ("PJO"). A child is a PJO if he or she:

- 1) Is charged with a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult;
- 2) Has been adjudicated or had adjudication withheld for a felony offense, or a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, before the current charge(s); and
- 3) In addition to 1) and 2) above, has five or more of the following: an arrest event for which a disposition has not yet been entered; an adjudication; or a withhold of adjudication. Three of the five items must have been for felony offenses or delinquent acts that would have been felonies if committed by adults.

The bill defines the term "arrest event" to mean an arrest or referral for one or more criminal offenses or delinquent acts arising out of the same episode, act, or transaction.

With respect to the new classification of PJO, the bill also amends s. 985.25(1), F.S., relating to juvenile detention intake, to require the placement of a child who meets the PJO criteria into secure detention until his or her detention hearing.

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<sup>19</sup> "Domestic violence" is defined to mean "any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offenses resulting in physical injury or death or one family or household member by another family or household member." s. 741.28(2), F.S.

<sup>20</sup> s. 985.255(1)(d), (2), and (3), F.S.

<sup>21</sup> s. 985.255(1)(e) and (3), F.S.

<sup>22</sup> s. 985.255(3)(b), F.S.

<sup>23</sup> Department of Juvenile Justice, *2017 Legislative Bill Analysis for HB 7059*, received March 21, 2017 (on file with the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee).

## Limitations on Pre-Adjudicatory/Pre-disposition Juvenile Detention

Once a detention hearing has been held and the state has filed a petition alleging a child committed a delinquent act or a violation of law, an adjudicatory hearing must be held as soon as practicable.<sup>24</sup> A child who is held in secure or nonsecure detention care before his or her adjudicatory hearing may not be held in such detention for more than 21 days,<sup>25</sup> except that the state or defense, in order to prepare its case, may seek up to a nine-day extension of detention care for a child charged with certain serious offenses.<sup>26</sup>

At the adjudicatory hearing, the judge must determine whether the state's evidence establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that the child committed the delinquent act alleged. The court may enter an order dismissing the case<sup>27</sup> or may enter an order stating the facts upon which it finds the child committed the delinquent act and either withhold adjudication<sup>28</sup> or enter an adjudication of delinquency.<sup>29</sup>

If the child is found to have committed a delinquent act at the adjudicatory hearing, the disposition of the case is typically entered at the same hearing; however, if the disposition is continued to a later date, statute provides that a child may not be held in secure or nonsecure detention care for more than 15 days following the entry of an order of adjudication.<sup>30</sup> This 15-day period does not include periods of delay that result from continuances granted by the court for cause.<sup>31</sup>

Statute does not require tolling of the 21-day and 15-day maximum detention care periods when a child is alleged to have violated nonsecure detention care. As a result, if a child violates his or her nonsecure detention care, days spent by the child in nonsecure detention care after the violation continue to count toward the detention care time limits until the court determines whether the child committed a violation of detention care. For example, if a child violates pre-adjudicatory nonsecure detention care on day nine, but the court does not determine that the child committed the violation until day 15, the court will only be able to continue the child's detention for six more days until the 21-day maximum is reached.

According to data from the DJJ, the statewide average number of days between arrest or referral of a child and the disposition hearing is 115 days for felony charges and 111 days for misdemeanor offenses.<sup>32</sup> For juveniles who meet the PJO criteria, the average number of days between arrest or referral and the disposition hearing is 71.8 days.<sup>33</sup>

### *Effect of the Bill on Limitations on Pre-Adjudicatory/Pre-Disposition Juvenile Detention*

Under the bill, a PJO must be held in secure detention or nonsecure detention with electronic monitoring until the disposition of his or her case. In s. 985.255(3)(a), F.S., the bill requires the court to use the results of the PJO's RAI only to determine whether the PJO shall be held in secure detention, rather than nonsecure detention with electronic monitoring. The bill specifies in s. 985.26(2), F.S., that secure detention is limited to 21 days before the adjudicatory hearing unless extended by nine days as authorized under current law and to 15 days following entry of an order of adjudication. The term "disposition" is defined to mean one of the following: the state declines to file charges,<sup>34</sup> the state enters

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<sup>24</sup> s. 985.35(1), F.S.

<sup>25</sup> s. 985.26(2), F.S.

<sup>26</sup> These offenses include any offense, which if committed by an adult, would be a capital felony, a life felony, a felony of the first degree, or a felony of the second degree involving violence against any individual. *Id.*

<sup>27</sup> s. 985.35(3), F.S.

<sup>28</sup> s. 985.35(4), F.S.

<sup>29</sup> s. 985.35(5), F.S.

<sup>30</sup> s. 985.26(3), F.S.

<sup>31</sup> If such a continuance is granted the court must conduct a hearing at the end of each 72-hour period, to determine the need for continued detention of the child and the need for further continuance of the proceedings. *See* s. 985.26(4), F.S.

<sup>32</sup> E-mail from Meredith Stanfield, Director of Legislative Affairs, DJJ, January 12, 2017 (on file with House of Representatives, Criminal Justice Subcommittee).

<sup>33</sup> E-mail from Meredith Stanfield, Director of Legislative Affairs, DJJ, February 20, 2017 (on file with House of Representatives, Criminal Justice Subcommittee).

<sup>34</sup> Pursuant to s. 985.15(1)(h), F.S.

a nolle prosequi for the charges; an indictment<sup>35</sup> or information<sup>36</sup> is filed; the case is dismissed; or there is a final order of disposition by the court.

The bill also amends s. 985.35, F.S., relating to adjudicatory hearings, to require that a PJO's adjudicatory hearing be held within 45 days after the petition alleging that a child has committed a delinquent act or violation is filed, unless a delay is requested by the child.

Additionally, the bill creates s. 985.26(4)(b), F.S., to establish a tolling period for juveniles placed on nonsecure detention care who are alleged to have violated a condition of the nonsecure detention care. Under the bill, a juvenile's period of nonsecure detention care is tolled on the date that the DJJ or a law enforcement officer alleges a violation of the nonsecure detention care. The period remains tolled until the court enters a ruling on the violation. Additionally, during the tolled period of nonsecure detention care, the court will continue to retain jurisdiction over the child should the child commit an additional violation of the nonsecure detention care. Ultimately, if the court finds that the child violated a condition of his or her nonsecure detention care, the number of days the child served in *any type* of detention care before commission of the violation will be excluded from the normally applicable maximum detention periods of 21-days prior to the adjudicatory hearing and 15-days prior to disposition; thus, allowing the court to continue such child's detention care for another 21-days or 15-days, as applicable.

### **Post-disposition Juvenile Detention**

After the court finds that a child has committed a delinquent act, the court must conduct a disposition hearing in which it determines the appropriate sanction for the child.<sup>37</sup> If the court places a child in a commitment program, the court must also place the child in detention care. If the program is a:

- Nonsecure residential program, the court must place the juvenile in secure or nonsecure detention for up to five days. The DJJ may seek an extension of the five-day period from the court to hold the juvenile in detention care until the commitment placement is made, except that secure detention may not exceed 15 days. If a juvenile violates nonsecure detention, he or she may be placed in secure detention for five days for the first and each subsequent violation.<sup>38</sup>
- High- or maximum-risk residential program, the juvenile must be held in secure detention until the placement is made.<sup>39</sup>

For FY 2015-16, data from the DJJ indicates that committed youth awaiting placement in the community were responsible for 4,308 new charges that included felonies, misdemeanors, and technical violations of detention care. In that same period, 149 committed youth awaiting placement absconded while awaiting placement.<sup>40</sup>

### *Effect of the Bill on Post-disposition Detention*

The bill amends s. 985.27, F.S., to require secure detention for juveniles awaiting placement in any residential commitment program, rather than only juveniles awaiting placement in high- or maximum-risk commitment programs.

### **Other Effects of the Bill**

The bill amends s. 382.0255(3), F.S., to require the Department of Health to waive the fee for birth certificates provided to juvenile offenders who are in the custody or under the supervision of the DJJ and receiving "Transition-to-Adulthood Services" under s. 984.461, F.S.

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<sup>35</sup> Pursuant to s. 985.56, F.S., this may occur if the child is charged with a violation of law punishable by death or by life imprisonment.

<sup>36</sup> Pursuant to s. 985.557, F.S., the state attorney may direct file, or in certain cases must direct file, an information for juvenile offenders of a certain age charged with committing certain serious offenses if the state intends to seek adult sanctions.

<sup>37</sup> s. 985.433, F.S.

<sup>38</sup> s. 985.27(1)(a), F.S.

<sup>39</sup> s. 985.27(1), F.S.

<sup>40</sup> Department of Juvenile Justice, *2017 Legislative Bill Analysis for HB 7059*, received March 21, 2017 (on file with the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee).

The bill also amends s. 985.35(7), F.S., which provides that a person who has an adjudication of delinquency for a felony is disqualified from possessing a firearm until 24 years of age, to create an exception to this disqualification for persons whose criminal history record has been expunged under s. 943.0515(1)(b), F.S.

Finally, the bill:

- Provides a statement indicating that the Legislature determines and declares that the act fulfills an important state interest.
- Provides a recurring appropriation of \$2,978,012 and a nonrecurring appropriation of \$2,978,012 from the General Revenue Fund to the DJJ for implementation of the bill.
- Makes technical changes to consistently use the term “detention care” throughout ch. 985, F.S.
- Reenacts multiple sections of law to incorporate amendments made by the bill.

The bill provides an effective date of October 1, 2017.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues: Counties that are not fiscally constrained must pay for approximately 50 percent of the costs of secure detention for juveniles residing in those counties. The counties deposit the funds into the DJJ’s Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund and DJJ uses the funds to cover the cost of secure detention. To the extent that the bill results in additional juveniles placed in secure detention, and for longer periods of time, revenues deposited into the Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund will increase. The estimated revenue increase is \$3,246,689. Any increase in revenues will be offset by expenditures.
2. Expenditures:

#### **Pre-adjudicatory detention and Prolific Juvenile Offenders**

The bill requires PJOs to be detained in either secure detention or nonsecure detention until disposition. The analysis assumes PJOs will be held for an additional 10 days in secure detention and for 29 days on nonsecure detention with electric monitoring. The total cost to implement is \$204,346, of which nonfiscally constrained counties would be expected to contribute \$75,276.

#### **Post-disposition detention awaiting placement**

The bill requires juveniles who are committed to a nonsecure residential program to be placed in secure detention until the placement is accomplished, which will increase the number of juveniles housed in secure detention. In FY 2015-16, there were 2,437 juveniles committed to a nonsecure residential program. The average time between the disposition hearing and the placement of a juvenile in a nonsecure residential program was 34 days, creating an additional 82,858 detention service days.

In order to adequately address the resources necessary to implement the additional days in secure detention, the analysis uses the variable cost as used in the PJO analysis plus an additional factor to increase overtime to cover the additional juveniles. An increase in overtime is expected as this section of the bill will increase the average statewide utilization to over 90 percent. The department currently has a 44 percent turnover rate in juvenile detention officers, and the new influx of juveniles into secure detention will require the department to increase staffing in detention centers.

An additional 82,858 detention service days will cost the department \$3,362,378 using the variable cost methodology. In addition to that cost, the department will likely see an increase in overtime costs. According to the department's analysis, overtime costs increased from \$3 million in FY 2013-14 to \$6.8 million in FY 2015-16. The department estimates with a 33 percent rise in the use of secure detention provided in this bill, the amount of overtime will increase correspondingly, which would add \$2,257,965 to the expenditure impact.<sup>41</sup> The total cost for housing youth committed to nonsecure residential is \$5,620,343.

In addition to the staffing requirements, the department will need approximately \$45,000 to update the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) to ensure the juveniles identified in the bill are appropriately screened for secure detention.<sup>42</sup>

### **Other Fiscal Impacts**

The Department of Health estimates that the no-cost birth certificate requirements of the bill will have a fiscal impact of less than \$5,000, which can be absorbed within existing resources.<sup>43</sup>

### **Summary**

The total estimated expenditures for the bill are \$5,869,689, which will be split between the State and counties that are not fiscally constrained. After splitting the cost, the fiscal impact on DJJ is \$2,984,241. The bill provides a recurring general revenue appropriation of \$2,984,241 and a recurring trust fund appropriation of \$2,885,448 in the Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund for the DJJ.

Fiscal impact data regarding the bill's tolling provisions is not available.

## **B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

1. Revenues: The bill does not impact local government's ability to raise revenues.
2. Expenditures: Counties that are not fiscally constrained are required to share in the responsibility of the cost of secure detention pursuant to s. 985.6865, F.S. For FY 2016-17, these counties are collectively responsible for paying \$42.5 million toward the cost of operating the juvenile detention system. Beginning in FY 2017-18, counties that are not fiscally constrained will be responsible for 50 percent of the total shared detention costs, which is payable to the department by the first of each month. The impact of the bill will result in additional juveniles being placed in secure detention and counties that are not fiscally constrained will pay for the additional juveniles. The estimated fiscal impact on the nonfiscally constrained counties is \$2,885,448.

## **C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.**

- D. FISCAL COMMENTS:** The fiscal analysis treats the secure detention system as a whole because it is difficult to accurately predict the effect on individual detention centers. Detention centers and their utilization rates vary widely across the state. The bill is likely to cause some centers to reach capacity before others, which could increase transportation costs for DJJ. The last year that DJJ had a statewide utilization rate of over 90 percent was FY 2005-06. The detention center in Escambia County had an average utilization of 136 percent of capacity, while the Bay County detention center had an average utilization rate of 74 percent. Of the 26 detention centers operational at that time, 12 centers had an average utilization rate over 100 percent of capacity.

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<sup>41</sup> Department of Juvenile Justice, Agency Legislative Bill Analysis – HB 7059, (2017) (on file with the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee).

<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

<sup>43</sup> Department of Health, 2017 Legislative Bill Analysis for "Secure No-Cost Birth Certificates for DJJ Youth," received March 28, 2017 (on file with the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee).