
HOUSE BILL 2858

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Costa, Sheahan, Dickerson, Cody, Morris, Dellwo, Hatfield and Conway

Read first time 01/23/96. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to juveniles; and creating new sections.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The office of the administrator for the
4 courts shall implement a grant program to fund "teen court" programs
5 for juveniles who commit offenses, infractions, or are truants. Teen
6 court programs that may be funded through this grant program are
7 limited to those that:

8 (1) Are developed using the guidelines for creating and operating
9 teen court programs of the american probation and parole association
10 teen courts project, which is supported by a grant awarded by the
11 national highway traffic safety administration in the department of
12 transportation;

13 (2) Target first-time nonviolent property offenders or nonviolent
14 property offenders with limited criminal history, or juveniles who
15 violate compulsory education or traffic laws;

16 (3) Target offenders age eight through seventeen; and

17 (4) Emphasize the following principles:

18 (a) Youth must be held accountable for their problem behavior;

1 (b) Youth must be educated about the impact their actions have on
2 themselves and others including their victims, families, and their
3 community;

4 (c) Youth must develop skills to resolve problems with their peers
5 more effectively; and

6 (d) Youth should be provided a meaningful forum to practice and
7 enhance newly developed skills.

8 Applicants may include diversion units, law enforcement entities,
9 juvenile courts, juvenile probation departments, private nonprofit
10 organizations, and schools. At a minimum grant applications must
11 include a description of the program, the age and criminal history of
12 the target population, what organizations will be involved in
13 developing and operating the teen court, and an evaluation methodology.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
15 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
16 June 30, 1996, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
17 void.

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