

HB 2195 -- YOUTH STATUS OFFENDERS

SPONSOR: Curtis

This bill requires the Division of Youth Services within the Missouri Department of Social Services to collaborate and share information with and provide any technical assistance to municipal courts in utilizing available community resources and programs for placement of youth status offenders and law violators. The programs must include:

- (1) Mental health counseling services;
- (2) Drug counseling services;
- (3) Community service options, including the opportunity for the youth to earn money to pay any fines or restitution;
- (4) Education and learning evaluations and resources; and
- (5) Other services and activities designed to address the factors contributing to youth status offenses and law violations in a community by providing early intervention services and resources for youth offenders.

Any municipal court may request assistance from the division and upon request, the division must provide assistance to the municipal court in identifying programs and resources available in the community and sharing information on effective programs and resources based on the division's experience with the incentive subsidy program.