

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1011 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY CEPHAS, SOLOMON, KENYATTA, T. DAVIS, SCHLOSSBERG, MADDEN, WILLIAMS, MURT, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, McCLINTON, FIEDLER, FRANKEL, STURLA, HARRIS, DALEY, FREEMAN, SAPPEY, SANCHEZ AND OTTEN, APRIL 2, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 2, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 22, 1978 (P.L.1166, No.274),
 2 entitled "An act establishing the Pennsylvania Commission on
 3 Crime and Delinquency, providing for its powers and duties
 4 establishing several advisory committees within the
 5 commission and providing for their powers and duties,"
 6 providing for Women and Girls Committee.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The act of November 22, 1978 (P.L.1166, No.274),
 10 referred to as the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and
 11 Delinquency Law, is amended by adding a section to read:

12 Section 7.3. Women and Girls Committee.

13 (a) Establishment.--The Women and Girls Committee is
 14 established within the commission.

15 (b) Composition.--The members of the committee shall be
 16 appointed by the chairperson of the commission and shall include
 17 representatives of currently existing commission committees and
 18 subcommittees related to criminal justice and juvenile justice,
 19 as well as at least two representatives from outside

1 organizations and academia with expertise in the area of women
2 and girls in the criminal and juvenile justice system. The
3 chairperson of the commission may appoint representatives from
4 other relevant committees or subcommittees as determined by the
5 commission.

6 (c) Term.--Members shall serve for a four-year term and may
7 be reappointed for no more than one additional consecutive term.

8 (d) Number.--The committee shall consist of no less than
9 nine members and no more than 15 members.

10 (e) Quorum.--A majority of the members shall constitute a
11 quorum and a vote of the majority of the members present shall
12 be sufficient for all actions.

13 (f) Chairperson.--The chairperson of the commission shall
14 appoint a committee chairperson from among the members of the
15 committee who shall serve at the pleasure of the chairperson of
16 the commission. A vice chairperson shall be designated by the
17 chairperson and preside at meetings in the absence of the
18 chairperson. The committee shall meet at the call of the
19 chairperson, but not less than two times annually.

20 (g) Powers and duties.--The Women and Girls Committee shall:

21 (1) Share research, program development, policy changes,
22 data and other information originating in each committee or
23 subcommittee on topics affecting juvenile and criminal
24 justice system-involved women and girls.

25 (2) Prepare and periodically update a plan that:

26 (i) Promotes the overall well-being of juvenile and
27 criminal justice system-involved women and girls.

28 (ii) Develops policies that address current issues
29 identified by committee members impacting at-risk women
30 and girls and those reentering the community after being

1 system-involved.

2 (3) Advise the commission on issues negatively impacting
3 juvenile and criminal justice system-involved women and
4 girls.

5 (4) Identify comprehensive, evidence-based initiatives
6 that address the trend of students with disciplinary problems
7 at school being forced into the juvenile and criminal justice
8 system.

9 (5) Monitor, discuss and suggest strategies related to
10 61 Pa.C.S. § 5905 (relating to healthy birth for incarcerated
11 women) to provide continued support and protections to
12 juvenile and criminal justice system-involved women and
13 girls.

14 (h) Staff support.--The executive director of the commission
15 shall make staff support available to the committee in order for
16 the committee to adequately perform the duties provided for
17 under this section.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.