
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 70 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, SCHWEYER, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY,
SCHLOSSBERG, GALLOWAY, FRANKEL, CIRESI, HOWARD, DELLOSO,
McCLINTON AND WARREN, MARCH 3, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 3, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting each district attorney in this Commonwealth to review
2 juvenile delinquency cases in the judicial district in which
3 the district attorney serves to focus on rehabilitation,
4 treatment and support and to heavily discourage immediate and
5 prolonged incarceration.

6 WHEREAS, Rates of juvenile incarceration have decreased over
7 the past decade; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2018, 728,280 children were arrested in the
9 United States, with a child or teen being arrested every 43
10 seconds; and

11 WHEREAS, An estimated 76,000 children are prosecuted,
12 sentenced or incarcerated as adults annually; and

13 WHEREAS, Children of color are nearly two times more likely
14 to be arrested than white children, with black children being
15 two and a half times more likely; and

16 WHEREAS, Incarcerated children are at risk of physical and
17 psychological abuse, sexual assault, suicide and other harms,
18 including inadequate educational instruction; and

19 WHEREAS, Risks are heightened for children in the adult

1 criminal justice system, which focuses on punishment rather than
2 rehabilitation and treatment; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives request each
4 district attorney in this Commonwealth to review juvenile
5 delinquency cases in the judicial district in which the district
6 attorney serves to focus on rehabilitation, treatment and
7 support and to heavily discourage immediate and prolonged
8 incarceration; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize that
10 the number of juveniles sentenced to incarceration remains too
11 high; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives acknowledge the
13 importance of rehabilitation and treatment for children involved
14 in the juvenile justice system.