

SENATE BILL 7075

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,
Chapter 3; Title 9; Title 16; Title 18 and Title 37,
relative to juvenile courts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The administrative office of the courts in conjunction with the department of finance and administration's office of criminal justice programs shall establish an extended pilot program for the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders to be administered by clerks of juvenile courts in this state.

(b) Juvenile court clerks that serve counties that do not have an existing juvenile offender rehabilitation program that provides recreational, educational, and mentoring opportunities for juvenile offenders shall establish and administer such a program in those counties in accordance with standards established under subsection (a). Clerks administering these programs are encouraged to partner with existing youth organizations in each county and may distribute grant funds to those partner organizations.

(c) There is created a separate fund within the general fund to be known as the juvenile offender rehabilitation extended pilot program grant fund. The fund is composed of:

- (1) Funds appropriated by the general assembly for the fund; and
- (2) Gifts, grants, and other donations received by the department of finance and administration or the administrative office of the courts for the fund.

(d) It is the legislative intent that funding in the amount of two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000) be appropriated each fiscal year from 2023-2024 through 2032-2033 in an appropriations act for awarding grants from the fund.

(e) Subject to the availability of funds, the department of finance and administration via the administrative office of the courts shall allocate and disperse grants each fiscal year to juvenile court clerks to support the extended pilot program.

(f) Moneys in the fund must be invested by the state treasurer for the benefit of the fund in accordance with § 9-4-603. Interest accruing on investments and deposits of the fund must be returned to the fund and remain part of the fund. Any unencumbered moneys and any unexpended balance of the fund remaining at the end of a fiscal year do not revert to the general fund, but must be carried forward until expended in accordance with this section.

(g) The commissioner of finance and administration may promulgate rules to effectuate this section in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(h) On or before January 1, 2025, and by January 1 of each subsequent year, the administrative office of the courts and the department of finance and administration shall prepare a report to the general assembly regarding the funds received and payments made by the fund.

SECTION 2. This act is not an appropriation of funds, and funds must not be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless the funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act or a supplemental appropriations act.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.