

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1185
By: Ellis
Education
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, there are concerns that young people in the State of Texas are confronted by numerous temptations and risks rooted in crime, violence, gangs, and drug activities. Despite the positive effects of legislation passed by the 74th Legislature, some communities continue to struggle with juvenile crime and delinquency. Many professionals in the area of juvenile delinquency believe that prevention plays a vital role in combating juvenile crime.

This bill would establish a center for the study and prevention of juvenile crime and delinquency at Prairie View A&M University. The center would conduct, coordinate, collect, and evaluate research in all areas relating to juvenile crime and delinquency, and serve as a state and national resource for information on juvenile crime and delinquency. In addition, this bill would enable the center to create partnerships and other programs to assist communities, governmental agencies, or private entities in addressing juvenile crime and delinquency and related social problems.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1185 establishes the Center for the Study and Prevention of Juvenile Crime and Delinquency at Prairie View A&M University.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 87B, Education Code, by adding Section 87.105, as follows:

Sec. 87.105. CENTER FOR THE STUDY AND PREVENTION OF JUVENILE CRIME AND DELINQUENCY. Establishes the Center for the Study and Prevention of Juvenile Crime and Delinquency at Prairie View A&M University (center). Provides that the organization, control, and management of the center is vested in the board of regents of the Texas A&M University System (board of regents). Requires the board of regents to approve the employment of personnel by and the operating budget of the center. Provides that an employee of the center is an employee of Prairie View A&M University. Authorizes the center to perform certain functions related to the study of juvenile crime and delinquency. Authorizes the center to enter into a cooperative agreement or contract with a public or private entity to perform the duties of the center. Authorizes the board of regents to accept gifts and grants from a public or private source for the benefit of the center.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.