



County Supervisors A S S O C I A T I O N o f a r i z o n a

2015 Legislative Policy Statement
11th Annual CSA Legislative Summit
Mohave County, Arizona
October 13-15, 2015

- A. What is the legislative proposal? Amend A.R.S 8-305 as follows: “The county board of supervisors or the county jail district, if authorized pursuant to title 48, chapter 25, shall maintain a detention center that is separate and apart from a jail or lockup in which adults are confined and where juveniles who are alleged to be delinquent, *are accused or convicted of a criminal offense*, or children who are incorrigible and within the provisions of this article shall be detained when necessary before or after a hearing or as a condition of probation.”

This change will enable counties to place youth transferred to adult court in detention centers instead of county jails.

- B. Describe the problem and explain how the proposal solves it.

The statute currently does not allow for transferred youth to be housed with other youth in juvenile detention facilities. Housing transferred youth in jail increases costs. In rural counties where few youth are transferred and detention populations are small, costs for separate housing are significant. Additionally, transferred youth who are incarcerated in adult jails are frequently deprived of the specialized youth services offered in juvenile detention facilities.

- C. What is the fiscal impact to the state or county budgets of the proposal? There is no impact to the state budget. Counties which elect to house transferred youth in detention centers would save money, because youth housed in adult jails require separation of sight and sound from the adult population, education services and special meals. All of these services are already being provided in juvenile detention facilities.

- D. What is the preliminary analysis of the political environment and stakeholders' and affiliates' comments?

This amendment would enable each county to determine the most appropriate incarceration option for transferred youth in its jurisdiction. Because no county would be forced to house transferred youth in detention facilities, there should be little resistance.

- E. Who is the primary county contact information for the proposal (name, phone, email and other relevant information)?

Name:

Phone:

E-mail: