

Act No. 168 (H.325). Corrections; human services; children arrested or incarcerated parents

An act relating to the rights of children of arrested and incarcerated parents

This act requires the Secretary of Human Services, the Commissioner of Corrections, and the Commissioner for Children and Families to study and develop recommendations, within the Integrated Family Services Initiative (IFS), to identify and connect children and families of incarcerated individuals to appropriate services, to build and maintain healthy relationships between children and incarcerated parents, including parent-child visits, parenting classes, and supervised visits, and to develop child- and family-centered tools or strategies that can be used throughout the criminal justice system to mitigate unintended consequences on children. The report shall be submitted to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, Senate Committee on Institutions, House Committee on Human Services, and House Committee on Corrections and Institutions on or before January 15, 2015.

The act also permits the Department of Corrections to share supervision history of probationers or parolees with the Department for Children and Families for the purpose of child protection.

Effective Date: June 3, 2014