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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill

Referred to Committee:

Senate 3

Red | Bill # 19

Authors: Hannah Ziegler, Sarah Ziegler, Amanda Collins	Action on the Bill	
School: Oldham Co. HS	House	Senate
	🗆 Passed	Passed
City: LaGrange	Defeated	Defeated

An act to eliminate containment as a punishment for non-substance abuse juvenile status offenses.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

 Section 1: Juvenile status offenses are actions that are only considered crimes for minors. While alcohol and tobacco consumption justly requires a minor to be detained, offenses such as truancy, running away from home, and breaking county curfew (with passage of this bill) will no longer be punishable by time served in a juvenile detention center or jail.

Section 2: Current status offense punishments such as fines, revocation of driver's license, and investigation of the minor's parents will remain in place to be used in non-substance abuse cases. Juvenile detention will remain in place as punishment for substance abuse cases.

Section 3: Kentucky is number two in the nation for jailing children. When combined with the first and third ranked states, they account for 60% of all children detained in the nation.

Section 4: A considerable amount of detained minors are in juvenile detention centers because they were pushed to commit non-substance abuse status offenses due to environmental and psychological issues.

Section 5: This bill will not require any funding, but will in fact save approximately \$210 a day for every minor that is not detained due to the new law.

Section 6: The Kentucky Department of Justice will enforce this bill.

Section 7: This bill will go into effect immediately after passage.