

JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM ACT IMPLEMENTATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2023

The Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission met in a regular session on Friday, July 7, 2023 in the Governor's Pressroom on the 4th Floor of the Louisiana State Capitol. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Senator Royce Duplessis and a roll call by Amaiya Ewell was taken as follows:

Members present: Richard Pitmann, Gina Womack, Bridget Denicola, Tracie Woods, Royce Duplessis, and Terry Lambright

Members absent: Marcus Bryant, Piper Griffin

Other Members Present: Amaiya Ewell, Legislative Staff

Visitors:

- I. **Welcome/Call Meeting to Order:** Senator Duplessis called meeting to order at 10:04 am.
- II. **Roll Call** – Legislative Staffer, Amaiya Ewell, did roll call and there was a quorum present.
- III. **Approval of November 16, 2022 minutes:** Minutes were approved with amendments.
Motion to approve minute meetings by Mr. Pitmann and Professor Woods second that motion.
- IV. **Reports-** Office of Juvenile Justice's report was given by Deputy Secretary Otha Curtis.
- V. **Remarks-** Senator Duplessis reads remarks submitted by Elizabeth Ryan, OJJDP.

Simon Gonsoulin offers remarks to JJRAIC commission.

VI. **Business-**

Motion: To accept services offered by Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Vote: Gina Womack motioned to accept services and Richard Pitmann second that motion.

Motion adopted.

Motion: To ensure representatives from DCFS, DOE, OJJ, Children's Cabinet and LDH-OBH be present at future meetings and provide data to the commission.

Vote: Gina Womack motioned to have representatives present at meetings to give data and presentations to the commission. Richard Pitmann second that motion.

VII. **Announcements:**

There will be a doodle poll sent out to commission members to attend the retreat hosted by OJJDP.

VIII. **Confirm next meeting date: December 1, 2023 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

IX. **Public Comments:** Joseph Dominic, President Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association, addressed the commission on Act No. 445, HB523 regarding Juvenile Detention Facilities. Asking the commission to help and reverse legislation to remove OJJ from the licensing process and return it back to DCFS.

Tony Celestine, Director of Calcasieu Parish Office of Juvenile Justice Services, addressed the commission about Act No. 445, HB523, as well and asked the commission and OJJ to keep in mind the citizens when writing legislation and standards.

Tracey Wells Huggins, National Chair College Solution for Juvenile Justice, asked the commission to implement a new strategic plan to remove youth from Angola Prison.

X. **Adjournment:** Senator Duplessis adjourned the meeting and it was second by Gina Womack