

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SB 6079

As Reported by House Committee On:
Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning

Title: An act relating to making juvenile detention records available to managed health care systems.

Brief Description: Making juvenile detention records available to managed health care systems.

Sponsors: Senators Boehnke and Wilson, C..

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning: 2/16/24, 2/20/24 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows the records of a person confined in a juvenile detention facility to be made available to managed care organizations and behavioral health administrative services organizations for the purpose of care coordination activities.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, YOUTH, & EARLY LEARNING

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 11 members: Representatives Senn, Chair; Cortes, Vice Chair; Rule, Vice Chair; Eslick, Ranking Minority Member; Couture, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Callan, Dent, Goodman, Ortiz-Self, Taylor and Walsh.

Staff: Omeara Harrington (786-7136).

Background:

Juvenile Records.

Juvenile records encompass various types of records, including a juvenile's official juvenile

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court file, their social file, which contains probation counselor records and reports, and any other records of a juvenile justice or care agency in a juvenile's case. The term "juvenile justice or care agency" is defined to include a wide range of entities, including juvenile detention facilities.

Juvenile justice or care agencies must take reasonable steps to assure the security of records. In general, all juvenile records other than the official juvenile court file are confidential and may only be released to certain persons for specified reasons. For example, the court may authorize a person's records to be released to or inspected by a clinic or hospital providing care for the person. Additionally, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families may disclose records to the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, and their contracting agencies for the purpose of providing for the health care coordination of children in foster care. Records subject to these authorized disclosures retain their confidentiality and cannot be further disclosed except as authorized by law.

Managed Care.

The Health Care Authority provides medical care services to eligible low-income state residents and their families, primarily through the Medicaid program. Behavioral health services and medical care services have been fully integrated into a managed health care system for most Medicaid clients that is operated by managed care organizations. While most Medicaid clients receive behavioral health services through the managed health care system, behavioral health administrative service organizations administer certain behavioral health services that are not covered by the managed health care system within a specific regional service area.

Managed Care System Access to Jail Records.

In the adult jail system, pursuant to legislation enacted in 2020, managed health care systems, including managed care organizations and behavioral health administrative services organizations, may access jail records for the purpose of care coordination activities.

Summary of Bill:

The records of a person confined in a juvenile detention facility may be made available to managed care organizations and behavioral health administrative services organizations for the purpose of care coordination activities. The receiving entity must hold the records in confidence and must comply with all relevant state and federal statutes regarding privacy of disclosed records.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) Managed care organizations have been working to build relationships with correctional facilities since 2016. This legislation is modeled off legislation that passed in 2020 related to adult facilities. The goal is to ensure that every detention facility in the state is able to work with managed care organizations.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Marissa Ingalls, Coordinated Care.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.