



HB116 Temporary Secure Juvenile Holding Area Information

HB116 creates a definition for “temporary secure juvenile holding area” in statute. This term relates to Alaska’s compliance with the federal the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP).

The JJDP established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Formula Grants Program that directly funds Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Juvenile Justice initiatives to improve the juvenile justice system. Alaska Statute 47.12 includes several references to the JJDP requirements; HB116 includes provisions to clarify these laws. The JJDP outlines Four Core Mandates that Alaska must comply with:

- 1. Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO):** Status offenders may never be held in an adult detention facility. Status offenders may only be held in a juvenile facility under the conditions authorized by AS 47.10.141.
- 2. Jail Removal:** Delinquent juvenile offenders may only be held temporarily in adult detention facilities pending transport to a juvenile detention facility as authorized by AS 47.12.240. The 2018 reauthorization of the JJDP extended the jail removal protections to minors who are waived into adult court. HB105/SB91 address the necessary amendments to Alaska statute and practices to comply with this change.
- 3. Sight and Sound Separation:** All juvenile delinquents in secure or non-secure custody in any adult detention facilities must be sight and sound separated from adult inmates.
- 4. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC):** States must access and address the disproportionate contact of youth of color as key points in the juvenile justice system.

When a juvenile offender is arrested in a community without a DJJ facility, the local law enforcement or State Troopers coordinate with DJJ on how to hold a youth pending transportation to the nearest DJJ facility. Juvenile offenders may be held in adult jails or other locations under the Core Mandate provisions.

HB116 adds the term “temporary secure juvenile holding area” to clarify these requirements in delinquency statute. The division tracks compliance, provides training, and conducts onsite compliance visits at “temporary secure juvenile holding areas” across the state. DJJ works with law enforcements to advise on holds in communities without identified “temporary secure juvenile holding areas.”

Examples of “Temporary Secure Juvenile Holding Areas”	
Community Jails	Barrow, Cordova, Craig, Dillingham, Haines, King Salmon, Petersburg, Seward, Unalaska, Valdez
Lock-Ups	Ambler, Buckland, Chevak, Deadhorse, False Pass, Galena, Glennallen, Hooper Bay, Kake, Kaktovik, Metlakatla, Noatak, Pelican, Quinhagak, Saint Paul, Seldovia, Togiak, Wainwright
Court Holding Cells	Delta, Kotzebue, Palmer