

HB 133: Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Update

1 Closes loopholes for sexual abuse of minors



- Updates the definition of "juvenile probation officer" to include supervision of youth **16 and 17 years old**. (**Section 3**).
- Clarifies that DJJ facility staff are in a position of authority over DJJ youth. (**Section 6**).

2 Updates Outdated Definitions

HB133 updates terminology used to reference DJJ facilities and staff, correcting ambiguity which has resulted in confusion for law enforcement and the courts.

3

Policy Updates

- Clarifies DJJ's authority to amend petitions (**Section 17**).
- Requires victims be notified when juvenile offenders are released from a secure residential psychiatric treatment center (**Section 25**).
- Updates language to clarify release of information regarding alleged vs. adjudicated offenses (**Section 26**).
- **Adds juvenile probation officers and DJJ staff to the list of mandatory reporters of child abuse and neglect** (**Section 38**).
- Repeals the revocation of juvenile drivers' licenses for *informal* controlled substance offenses to align with statute for *formal* controlled substance abuse cases (**Section 39**).

Breakdown of Amended Terminology in HB133

Much of the language used to describe DJJ facilities and staff are outdated. HB133 modernizes these terms to provide needed clarity as follows.

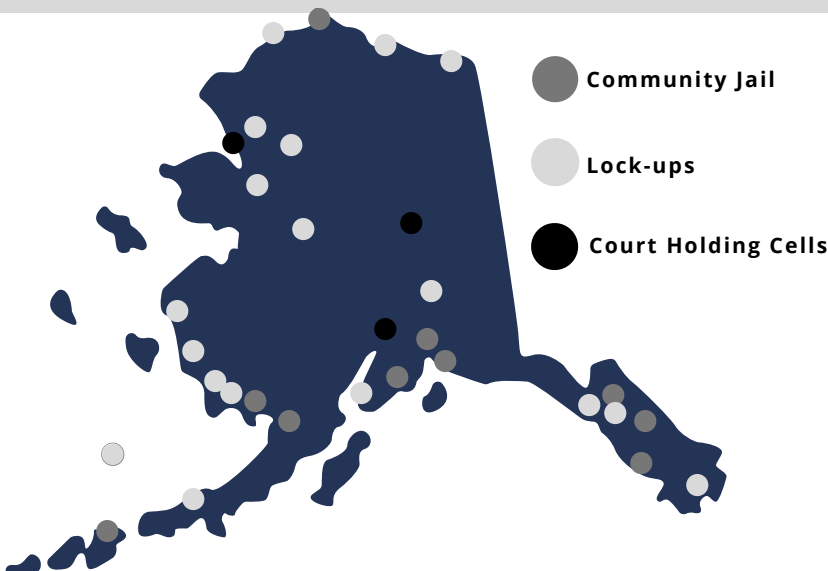
Repeals the following outdated terms:

- "juvenile detention home"
- "youth detention facility"
- "correctional school"
- "Juvenile work camp"



Replaces them with:
"juvenile detention facility" and "juvenile treatment facility"

Facility definitions in sections 27, 29, and 35.



Defines "temporary secure juvenile holding areas":
DJJ works with local communities and entities to hold youth securely pending escort to a DJJ detention facility. Current statute does not reflect this process.

Repeals the following term:

- "youth counselors"



Replaces it with:
"juvenile probation officer"

The new definition of "juvenile probation officer is in section 24 of HB133.

The term "youth counselor" hasn't been used to describe DJJ staff since 2003. In addition, there definition for "juvenile probation officers under current statute is outdated. HB133 clearly defines juvenile probation officers, their duties and authorities.