



# PROGRAM EVALUATION DIVISION

## NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

November 2020

Report No. 2020-10

# Options for Reorganizing the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice

## Highlights

**IN BRIEF:** Session Law 2019-236 tasked the Program Evaluation Division (PED) with collecting and examining data on five structural reconfigurations of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice (ACJJ) within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Since 2012, ACJJ has been organizationally located within DPS. The division provides care, custody, and supervision for all adults and juveniles sentenced after conviction for violations of North Carolina law.

**Each reconfiguration of ACJJ analyzed in this study involves portions or all of the division either exiting DPS or becoming more independent within the department.** Comparative information gathered by PED fit within three broad categories:

- organizational details (structure and staff),
- costs and budgetary considerations, and
- benefits and challenges.

Additionally, legislative changes and timeline considerations necessary for realizing each option accompany the data.

DPS divisions potentially influenced by pursuing one of the six options include

- the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice;
- the Division of Professional Standards, Policy, and Planning;
- the Division of Administration; and
- the Office of General Counsel.

The table below shows additional staff needed to support a given option while maintaining DPS operations. It also shows the new costs per option, including the salary and benefits for additional staff and one-time costs.

Reconfiguration Option Name	Add. FTE Needed	Est. New Costs
Department of Correction	44	\$7.0 million
Department of Juvenile Justice	41	\$5.3 million
Department of Correction & Juvenile Justice	46	\$7.5 million
Division of Correction	8	\$1.2 million
Division of Juvenile Justice	7	\$990,000
Division of Correction & Juvenile Justice	8	\$1.1 million

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The report provides background information on the current structure of ACJJ and then presents comparative information on the six options followed by individual summaries for each option.

**As directed by Session Law 2019-236, the report does not endorse one option over other options but instead provides standalone and comparative information to allow legislators to determine which option, if any, would be appropriate to pursue.** This report does not contain recommendations. Instead, it provides high-level budgetary estimates, organizational considerations, legislative requirements, and general timelines associated with the various reorganization options. Should the General Assembly choose to pursue a given option, affected leadership in ACJJ and DPS would need to work collaboratively in detailing exactly how to implement this option.