



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

Executive Order 2021-11

An order establishing the formation of the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission, an advisory group to update and replace the State Advisory Group for Juvenile Justice.

WHEREAS, on May 12, 1999, the Governor of New Hampshire ordered the establishment of the State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice for the purposes of supervising the administration of State Formula Grants under Part B of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act by the Division for Children, Youth and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to remain eligible for obtaining aid under the federal formula grants that help combat juvenile crime through the Juvenile Justice and Prevention Act of 1974 as amended by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 an advisory group must be maintained; and

WHEREAS, over the last several years, policy makers and behavioral health professionals have worked to align juvenile justice systems with advances in knowledge around adolescent development; and

WHEREAS, to be effective for the individual and community as a whole, consequences for juvenile offending should be grounded in scientific knowledge about adolescent development, and tailored to an individual offender's needs and social environment; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire has an opportunity to redesign its juvenile justice system in a way that provides accountability without criminalization, offers alternatives to justice system involvement, provides an individualized approach based on the juveniles risks and need, while ensuring the safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, to further support the Department's work in revamping and retooling the system, the State has an opportunity to update the State's juvenile justice advisory group's mission and membership to provide a valuable resource to this important initiative.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, Governor of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me pursuant to part II, article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. Executive Order 99-3 is hereby rescinded.
2. There is hereby established a Juvenile Justice Reform Commission (JJRC), which shall include not less than 15 and not more than 33 members and shall constitute the State's advisory group as required under the Juvenile Justice and Prevention Act of 1974 as amended by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018.
3. The Council shall fulfill all obligations enumerated in 34 U.S.C. §11133.
4. The members of the Council shall include the following members to be appointed by the Governor for five year terms.
 - a. A locally elected official representing general purpose local government
 - b. Commissioner or designee of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services
 - c. Commissioner or designee of the New Hampshire Department of Education
 - d. Commissioner or designee of the New Hampshire Department of Safety
 - e. A representative of local law enforcement
 - f. A district court judge with experience in juvenile justice
 - g. A public defender with experience in representing youth in juvenile justice matters
 - h. A Juvenile Probation and Parole Officer
 - i. A prosecutor with experience in prosecuting youth in juvenile justice matters
 - j. The Director of the Division for Children, Youth and Families or designee
 - k. Representative of nonprofit organizations, including persons with a special focus on preserving and strengthening families, parent groups and parent self-help groups, youth development, delinquency prevention and treatment, neglected or dependent children, the quality of juvenile justice, education, and social services for children;
 - l. A CASA volunteer with experience in working with youth involved or at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system
 - m. A representative of a local juvenile diversion program
 - n. An individual with experience in addressing problems related to school violence and vandalism and alternatives to suspension and expulsion
 - o. A licensed provider with experience in addressing mental health and substance abuse needs in at risk youth.
 - p. Any other individual necessary to meet the requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Prevention Act of 1974 as amended by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018
 - q. The appointees shall include at least three individuals that are or have been under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system, or the parent/guardian of such an individual.

- r. The appointees shall include at least one individual representing a victim or witness advocacy group with expertise in addressing the challenges of sexual abuse and trauma.
5. Per federal requirements, a majority of members (including the chairperson) shall not be full-time employees of the federal, state, or local government and one-fifth of the members shall be under the age of 28 at the time of initial appointment.
6. Initial terms shall be staggered so that no more than 2/5 of the members' terms shall expire in the same year. No individual shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
7. The members of the Council shall hold an organizational meeting prior to November 15, 2021, and shall meet no less than quarterly thereafter.
8. A majority of the filled positions on the Council shall constitute a quorum and all official actions of the Council shall require a majority vote of those present.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 7th day of October, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-one, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-five.



GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE