

1 AN ACT relating to juvenile justice.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 200 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) As used in this section:*

6 *(a) "Behavioral assessment" means an evaluation of a child by a clinical*
7 *professional, which may occur in person, remotely, or through the review of*
8 *clinical records;*

9 *(b) "Clinical professional" means a licensed clinician employed by, or*
10 *associated with, an inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching*
11 *hospital, who is qualified to make a clinical determination whether a child*
12 *meets criteria for admission to an inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric*
13 *teaching hospital for inpatient psychiatric care;*

14 *(c) "Department" means the Department for Behavioral Health,*
15 *Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities;*

16 *(d) "High acuity youth" means a child who has been determined by a clinical*
17 *professional, following a behavioral assessment, to need an environment*
18 *and specialized treatment capable of addressing manifest aggression,*
19 *violence toward persons, or property destruction;*

20 *(e) "Inpatient psychiatric hospital" means a hospital, other than a state mental*
21 *hospital, that is licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 216B to provide inpatient*
22 *psychiatric services; and*

23 *(f) "Pediatric teaching hospital" has the same meaning as in KRS 205.565.*

24 *(2) A child charged with a public offense or subject to a court order to receive*
25 *inpatient psychiatric treatment and who is in the custody of the Department of*
26 *Juvenile Justice or the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall, prior to*
27 *being delivered to an inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching hospital*

1 for admission, undergo a behavioral assessment by a clinical professional to
2 determine whether the child qualifies as a high acuity youth.

3 (3) (a) If the clinical professional determines that the child qualifies as a high
4 acuity youth following the behavioral assessment, the clinical professional
5 shall contact the:

6 1. Designated representative of the department or other designated
7 representative of the cabinet; and

8 2. Designated representative of the Department of Juvenile Justice;
9 to discuss the immediate treatment plan for the child.

10 (b) In addition, the clinical professional shall prepare an affidavit, with any
11 documents in support of the affidavit, for submission to the department, the
12 Department of Juvenile Justice, and the court. The affidavit shall include:

13 1. A summary of the clinical evidence that the clinical professional relied
14 upon for the determination that the child qualifies as a high acuity
15 youth;

16 2. A recommendation of the appropriate location for any recommended
17 inpatient treatment services for the high acuity youth and the basis for
18 the recommendation, based upon the child's needs and the capabilities
19 of the inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching hospital, or
20 whether treatment on an outpatient basis may be provided at a
21 detention facility for a child in the custody of the Department of
22 Juvenile Justice or at a location specified by the department if the
23 child is in the custody of the cabinet; and

24 3. Contact information from the inpatient psychiatric hospital or
25 pediatric teaching hospital for one (1) or more clinical professionals
26 who can provide the types of services for the high acuity youth at a
27 detention facility or location designated by the department if it is

1 determined in the best interest of the child that the child should
2 receive psychiatric services other than inpatient treatment services.

3 (4) (a) If the representative of the department and the representative of the
4 Department of Juvenile Justice agree with the recommendations of the
5 clinical professional, a conference affidavit establishing an initial treatment
6 plan shall be submitted to the court on a form provided by the
7 Administrative Office of the Courts within twenty-four (24) hours of the
8 delivery of the initial affidavit under subsection (3) of this section.

9 (b) If the representative of the department, and the representative of the
10 Department of Juvenile Justice do not agree to the treatment
11 recommendations of the clinical professional, either party or both parties
12 shall submit an affidavit of dissent to the court on a form provided by the
13 Administrative Office of the Courts that states the objection, the clinical
14 basis for the objection, and may include a recommendation for an alternate
15 plan, facility, or assessment. The dissenting affidavit shall be signed by a
16 physician who can speak directly to the clinical basis for submitting the
17 dissenting affidavit.

18 (5) Following submission of a conference affidavit or affidavits of dissent, the court
19 shall enter an order regarding the course of treatment or may schedule a hearing
20 to determine a treatment plan for the high acuity youth.

21 (6) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the court shall not order a high
22 acuity youth for inpatient treatment within an inpatient psychiatric hospital or
23 pediatric teaching hospital without agreement of the hospital, the department,
24 and the Department of Juvenile Justice unless the court determines by clear and
25 convincing evidence that the inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching
26 hospital has the resources and capabilities to treat the high acuity youth in a
27 manner that does not pose a danger to the high acuity youth or the hospital's

1 patients and staff. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require an
2 inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching hospital to admit a child if
3 doing so would be in violation of federal law.

4 (7) (a) If the treatment plan approved or ordered by the court involves the
5 admission of a high acuity youth to an inpatient psychiatric hospital or
6 pediatric teaching hospital, then the provision of inpatient services by the
7 inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching hospital shall be
8 reimbursed by the Department of Medicaid Services at no less than two
9 hundred percent (200%) of the then current inpatient psychiatric hospital's
10 or pediatric teaching hospital's Medicaid inpatient rate to account for the
11 acuity and intensity of health care items and services necessary for
12 treatment of high acuity youth, the provisions of KRS 202A.271
13 notwithstanding.

14 (b) For any admission under this subsection, the inpatient psychiatric hospital
15 or pediatric teaching hospital shall provide:

- 16 1. An updated treatment plan in addition to the initial treatment plan if
17 needed within ten (10) days from the filing of the initial affidavit; and
- 18 2. Status reports to the department or the Department of Juvenile
19 Justice, as applicable, upon request or as ordered by the court.

20 (c) Any dispute that arises between the inpatient psychiatric hospital or
21 pediatric teaching hospital, the department, and the Department of Juvenile
22 Justice shall be resolved in the manner provided in subsections (3), (4), and
23 (5) of this section, and any party may request court review at any time
24 during the period of treatment.

25 (8) If a high acuity youth is admitted to an inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric
26 teaching hospital for treatment pursuant to a court order issued under this
27 section, and the high acuity youth commits an act of violence against any of the

1 department or other designated representative of the cabinet, or the Department
2 of Juvenile Justice, as applicable, and the court, and the youth shall be:

3 (a) Charged criminally;

4 (b) Discharged from the hospital; and

5 (c) Returned to the youth's last place of custody or residence unless another
6 location is ordered by the court.

7 (9) If the treatment plan approved or ordered by the court involves the provision of
8 outpatient psychiatric services to the high acuity youth at the location of a
9 detention facility, then the department or the Department of Juvenile Justice may
10 contract with an inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching hospital to
11 provide the outpatient psychiatric services. The inpatient psychiatric hospital or
12 pediatric teaching hospital shall be reimbursed by the Department for Medicaid
13 Services for such outpatient psychiatric services at no less than one hundred fifty
14 percent (150%) of the then current inpatient psychiatric hospital's or pediatric
15 teaching hospital's Medicaid reimbursement rate as if such services had been
16 performed in an inpatient setting, the provisions of KRS 202A.271
17 notwithstanding.

18 (10) Each inpatient psychiatric hospital or pediatric teaching hospital that accepts any
19 high acuity youth under this section, the cabinet, the department, the Department
20 of Juvenile Justice, and the Court of Justice shall adopt and provide a protocol
21 for twenty-four (24) hour access to comply with the requirements of this section.

22 (11) When a high acuity youth has received residential treatment and the treatment
23 has improved the youth's condition to a status that the need for continued
24 treatment at that facility is no longer medically indicated as determined by the
25 treating physician:

26 (a) If the youth has a need for the continuum of care on an inpatient basis in
27 an inpatient psychiatric hospital, pediatric teaching hospital, or other

1 inpatient facility equipped to treat a high acuity youth, the Department for
 2 Juvenile Justice, the department, and a representative of the inpatient
 3 psychiatric hospital, pediatric teaching hospital, or other inpatient facility to
 4 which the youth may be transferred shall proceed in accordance with
 5 subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this section;

6 (b) Any additional medical care, that the youth may need as part of a
 7 continuum of care that requires a transfer to another facility for treatment
 8 shall also proceed in accordance with subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this
 9 section; and

10 (c) As part of the continuum of care, the same representatives from the
 11 department and the Department of Juvenile Justice who have evaluated and
 12 provided treatment and recommendations for the youth shall, to the extent
 13 possible, continue to review the medical treatment of the youth to provide
 14 stability of care with the goal of improving the life and health of the youth.

15 (12) In the event a high acuity youth is delivered to an inpatient psychiatric hospital or
 16 pediatric teaching hospital for a behavioral assessment without referral by the
 17 department, the cabinet, or the Department of Juvenile Justice, the clinical
 18 professional may present the affidavit prepared following the assessment to a law
 19 enforcement officer, a court designated worker, or a detention alternative
 20 coordinator, and shall send a copy of the initial affidavit to a representative of the
 21 department or cabinet and the Department of Juvenile Justice, as applicable, and
 22 return the youth to the custody of the custodial agency until such time as a court
 23 issues further orders regarding the appropriate treatment for the high acuity
 24 youth.

25 ➔Section 2. KRS 15A.305 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) (a) The Department of Juvenile Justice shall ~~develop and~~ administer a
 27 statewide ~~detention~~ program that shall include both preadjudication and

1 postadjudication facilities for the detention and treatment of children. The
2 department shall determine the appropriate physical security for each
3 facility.

4 (b) The facilities, as defined in Section 3 of this Act, shall include:

5 1. Detention facilities;

6 2. Youth development centers;

7 3. Group homes;

8 4. Alternatives to detention centers; and

9 5. An acute mental health facility licensed under KRS Chapter 216B
10 which shall be a residential treatment facility.

11 (c) The department shall provide alternatives to detention for children charged

12 with ~~and, as each regional facility is constructed and ready for occupancy,~~
13 ~~shall provide for:~~

14 ~~(a) The operation of preadjudication detention facilities for children charged with~~
15 ~~public offenses; and~~

16 ~~(b) The operation of postadjudication detention facilities for children adjudicated~~
17 ~~delinquent or found guilty of] public offenses~~ as provided in subsection (2) of
18 this section.

19 (2) In each region in which the department currently ~~Department of Juvenile Justice]~~
20 operates or contracts for the operation of a detention facility, or operates or
21 contracts for the operation of a detention facility in the future, the department
22 shall develop and administer a program for alternatives to secure detention that
23 shall provide for:

24 (a) The operation of or contracting for the operation of preadjudication
25 alternatives to secure detention and follow-up programs for juveniles who are
26 before the court or who enter pretrial diversion or informal adjustment
27 programs; and

1 (b) The operation of or contracting for the operation of postadjudication
2 alternatives to secure detention and follow-up programs, including but not
3 limited to community-based programs, mentoring, counseling, and other
4 programs designed to limit the unnecessary use of secure detention and ensure
5 public safety.

6 (3) Beginning February 1, 2026, the department shall operate:

7 (a) 1. At least two (2) female only detention facilities for female offenders,
8 one (1) located in the central region of the state and one (1) located in
9 the western region of the state, which shall safely segregate violent
10 offenders as described in KRS 532.200 from nonviolent offenders;

11 2. The number of female only detention facilities may be increased to
12 three (3) facilities if an analysis of the female population exceeds the
13 capacity of the two (2) original facilities. The location of any third
14 facility under this subparagraph shall be in the northern or eastern
15 region of the state, with the precise location to be determined based
16 upon an analysis of population of female offenders in detention
17 facilities at the time according to the county of residence of the
18 offenders; and

19 3. Any additional detention facility shall segregate violent offenders as
20 described in KRS 532.200 from nonviolent offenders; and

21 (b) For male offenders, a regional model of juvenile detention facilities as
22 required by 2023 Ky. Acts ch. 106, sec. 6(1) which shall safely segregate
23 violent offenders as described in KRS 532.200 from nonviolent offenders.

24 (4) The department may reassign where a particular child shall be housed based on
25 safety or security concerns, staffing needs, and classification.

26 (5) The department shall develop and implement a system to immediately notify the
27 Cabinet for Health and Family Services when a status offender or child alleged to

1 be a status offender has been detained for the alleged violation of a valid court
2 order.

3 ~~(6)~~~~(4)~~ The department ~~shall~~~~may~~, except as provided in KRS 635.060, charge
4 counties, **charter county governments, unified local governments,** consolidated
5 local governments, and urban-county governments a per diem **rate set by**
6 **administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A**~~not~~
7 ~~to exceed ninety-four dollars (\$94)~~ for lodging juveniles in state-owned or
8 contracted facilities.

9 ~~(7)~~~~(5)~~ Detention rates charged by contracting detention facilities shall not exceed the
10 rate in effect on July 1, 1997, subject to increases approved by the department.

11 ~~(8)~~~~(6)~~ No juvenile detention facility, as defined in KRS 15A.200, shall be taken
12 over, purchased, or leased by the Commonwealth without prior approval of the
13 fiscal court **or legislative body of the county** upon consultation with the jailer in the
14 county where the facility is located. The county, upon consultation with the jailer,
15 may enter into contracts with the Commonwealth for the holding, detention, and
16 transportation of juveniles.

17 ~~(9)~~~~(7)~~ **(a)** The ~~department~~~~Department of Juvenile Justice~~ shall enter into
18 sufficient contracts to ensure the availability of institutional treatment for
19 children with severe emotional disturbance or mental illness as soon as
20 practicable.

21 **(b) The department may contract with one (1) or more inpatient psychiatric**
22 **hospitals, pediatric teaching hospitals, or other behavioral health providers**
23 **to provide outpatient behavioral health services to children in need of those**
24 **services while in a detention facility.**

25 ~~(10)~~~~(8)~~ The ~~department~~~~Department of Juvenile Justice~~ shall, for any facility
26 operated pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, require that the facility:

27 (a) Provide children in crisis who are residing in a juvenile ~~detention~~ facility

- 1 access to a mental health professional whose communications with the child
2 are privileged under the Kentucky Rules of Evidence;
- 3 (b) Conduct monthly documented training related to emergency response;
- 4 (c) Ensure that appropriate staff working with *a child in a secure juvenile*
5 *detention facility or a residential treatment facility*~~[detained youth]~~ have
6 controlled access to, and are properly trained in the use of, appropriate
7 defensive equipment comparable to that utilized by the Department of
8 Corrections, including tasers, pepper spray, and shields;
- 9 (d) Establish a specially trained emergency response team within each juvenile
10 detention center and youth development center which shall be trained in
11 tactics related to *emergency response*~~[detention facilities]~~ and engage in
12 monthly drills as part of emergency response training;
- 13 (e) Enter into a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement for
14 emergency response and include these agencies in emergency response
15 trainings;
- 16 (f) Be equipped with an alarm that directly communicates an emergency situation
17 to the local dispatch center; and
- 18 (g) Promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A
19 to implement this subsection.

20 ➔Section 3. KRS 600.020 is amended to read as follows:

21 As used in KRS Chapters 600 to 645, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 22 (1) "Abused or neglected child" means a child whose health or welfare is harmed or
23 threatened with harm when:
- 24 (a) His or her parent, guardian, person in a position of authority or special trust,
25 as defined in KRS 532.045, or other person exercising custodial control or
26 supervision of the child:
- 27 1. Inflicts or allows to be inflicted upon the child physical or emotional

- 1 injury as defined in this section by other than accidental means;
- 2 2. Creates or allows to be created a risk of physical or emotional injury as
- 3 defined in this section to the child by other than accidental means;
- 4 3. Engages in a pattern of conduct that renders the parent incapable of
- 5 caring for the immediate and ongoing needs of the child, including but
- 6 not limited to parental incapacity due to a substance use disorder as
- 7 defined in KRS 222.005;
- 8 4. Continuously or repeatedly fails or refuses to provide essential parental
- 9 care and protection for the child, considering the age of the child;
- 10 5. Commits or allows to be committed an act of sexual abuse, sexual
- 11 exploitation, or prostitution upon the child;
- 12 6. Creates or allows to be created a risk that an act of sexual abuse, sexual
- 13 exploitation, or prostitution will be committed upon the child;
- 14 7. Abandons or exploits the child;
- 15 8. Does not provide the child with adequate care, supervision, food,
- 16 clothing, shelter, and education or medical care necessary for the child's
- 17 well-being when financially able to do so or offered financial or other
- 18 means to do so. A parent or other person exercising custodial control or
- 19 supervision of the child legitimately practicing the person's religious
- 20 beliefs shall not be considered a negligent parent solely because of
- 21 failure to provide specified medical treatment for a child for that reason
- 22 alone. This exception shall not preclude a court from ordering necessary
- 23 medical services for a child;
- 24 9. Fails to make sufficient progress toward identified goals as set forth in
- 25 the court-approved case plan to allow for the safe return of the child to
- 26 the parent that results in the child remaining committed to the cabinet
- 27 and remaining in foster care for fifteen (15) cumulative months out of

- 1 forty-eight (48) months; or
- 2 10. Commits or allows female genital mutilation as defined in KRS 508.125
- 3 to be committed; or
- 4 (b) A person twenty-one (21) years of age or older commits or allows to be
- 5 committed an act of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or prostitution upon a
- 6 child less than sixteen (16) years of age;
- 7 (2) "Age or developmentally appropriate" has the same meaning as in 42 U.S.C. sec.
- 8 675(11);
- 9 (3) "Aggravated circumstances" means the existence of one (1) or more of the
- 10 following conditions:
- 11 (a) The parent has not attempted or has not had contact with the child for a period
- 12 of not less than ninety (90) days;
- 13 (b) The parent is incarcerated and will be unavailable to care for the child for a
- 14 period of at least one (1) year from the date of the child's entry into foster care
- 15 and there is no appropriate relative placement available during this period of
- 16 time;
- 17 (c) The parent has sexually abused the child and has refused available treatment;
- 18 (d) The parent has been found by the cabinet to have engaged in abuse of the
- 19 child that required removal from the parent's home two (2) or more times in
- 20 the past two (2) years; or
- 21 (e) The parent has caused the child serious physical injury;
- 22 (4) **"Alternative to detention center" means any building that provides a less**
- 23 **restrictive environment than a secure juvenile detention facility, is operated by or**
- 24 **contracted through the Department of Juvenile Justice, and is approved for use**
- 25 **as an alternative to detention program pursuant to Section 2 of this Act;**
- 26 (5) "Beyond the control of parents" means a child who has repeatedly failed to follow
- 27 the reasonable directives of his or her parents, legal guardian, or person exercising

1 custodial control or supervision other than a state agency, which behavior results in
2 danger to the child or others, and which behavior does not constitute behavior that
3 would warrant the filing of a petition under KRS Chapter 645;

4 ~~(6)~~~~(5)~~ "Beyond the control of school" means any child who has been found by the
5 court to have repeatedly violated the lawful regulations for the government of the
6 school as provided in KRS 158.150, and as documented in writing by the school as
7 a part of the school's petition or as an attachment to the school's petition. The
8 petition or attachment shall describe the student's behavior and all intervention
9 strategies attempted by the school;

10 ~~(7)~~~~(6)~~ "Boarding home" means a privately owned and operated home for the
11 boarding and lodging of individuals which is approved by the Department of
12 Juvenile Justice or the cabinet for the placement of children committed to the
13 department or the cabinet;

14 ~~(8)~~~~(7)~~ "Cabinet" means the Cabinet for Health and Family Services;

15 ~~(9)~~~~(8)~~ "Certified juvenile facility staff" means individuals who meet the
16 qualifications of, and who have completed a course of education and training in
17 juvenile detention developed and approved by, the Department of Juvenile Justice
18 after consultation with other appropriate state agencies;

19 ~~(10)~~~~(9)~~ "Child" means any person who has not reached his or her eighteenth birthday,
20 unless otherwise provided;

21 ~~(11)~~~~(10)~~ "Child-caring facility" means any facility or group home other than a state
22 facility, Department of Juvenile Justice contract facility or group home, or one
23 certified by an appropriate agency as operated primarily for educational or medical
24 purposes, providing residential care on a twenty-four (24) hour basis to children not
25 related by blood, adoption, or marriage to the person maintaining the facility;

26 ~~(12)~~~~(11)~~ "Child-placing agency" means any agency, other than a state agency, which
27 supervises the placement of children in foster family homes or child-caring

1 facilities or which places children for adoption;

2 ~~[(12) "Clinical treatment facility" means a facility with more than eight (8) beds~~
3 ~~designated by the Department of Juvenile Justice or the cabinet for the treatment of~~
4 ~~mentally ill children. The treatment program of such facilities shall be supervised~~
5 ~~by a qualified mental health professional;]~~

6 (13) "Commitment" means an order of the court which places a child under the custodial
7 control or supervision of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department
8 of Juvenile Justice, or another facility or agency until the child attains the age of
9 eighteen (18) unless otherwise provided by law;

10 ~~[(14) "Community based facility" means any nonsecure, homelike facility licensed,~~
11 ~~operated, or permitted to operate by the Department of Juvenile Justice or the~~
12 ~~cabinet, which is located within a reasonable proximity of the child's family and~~
13 ~~home community, which affords the child the opportunity, if a Kentucky resident,~~
14 ~~to continue family and community contact;~~

15 ~~[(15)]~~ "Complaint" means a verified statement setting forth allegations in regard to the
16 child which contain sufficient facts for the formulation of a subsequent petition;

17 (15)~~[(16)]~~ "Court" means the juvenile session of District Court unless a statute specifies
18 the adult session of District Court or the Circuit Court;

19 (16)~~[(17)]~~ "Court-designated worker" means that organization or individual delegated by
20 the Administrative Office of the Courts for the purposes of placing children in
21 alternative placements prior to arraignment, conducting preliminary investigations,
22 and formulating, entering into, and supervising diversion agreements and
23 performing such other functions as authorized by law or court order;

24 (17)~~[(18)]~~ "Deadly weapon" has the same meaning as it does in KRS 500.080;

25 (18)~~[(19)]~~ "Department" means the Department for Community Based Services;

26 (19)~~[(20)]~~ "Dependent child" means any child, other than an abused or neglected child,
27 who is under improper care, custody, control, or guardianship that is not due to an

1 intentional act of the parent, guardian, or person exercising custodial control or
2 supervision of the child;

3 ~~(20)~~~~(21)~~ "Detention" means the safe and temporary ***housing***~~[custody]~~ of a juvenile
4 who is accused of conduct subject to the jurisdiction of the court who requires a
5 restricted or closely supervised environment for his or her own or the community's
6 protection;

7 ~~(21)~~~~(22)~~ "Detention hearing" means a hearing held by a judge or trial commissioner
8 within twenty-four (24) hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, of the start of
9 any period of detention prior to adjudication;

10 ~~(22)~~~~(23)~~ "Diversion agreement" means a mechanism designed to hold a child
11 accountable for his or her behavior and, if appropriate, securing services to serve
12 the best interest of the child and to provide redress for that behavior without court
13 action and without the creation of a formal court record;

14 ~~(23)~~~~(24)~~ "Eligible youth" means a person who:

- 15 (a) Is or has been committed to the cabinet as dependent, neglected, or abused;
16 (b) Is eighteen (18) years of age to nineteen (19) years of age; and
17 (c) Is requesting to extend or reinstate his or her commitment to the cabinet in
18 order to participate in state or federal educational programs or to establish
19 independent living arrangements;

20 ~~(24)~~~~(25)~~ "Emergency shelter" is a group home, private residence, foster home, or
21 similar homelike facility which provides temporary or emergency care of children
22 and adequate staff and services consistent with the needs of each child;

23 ~~(25)~~~~(26)~~ "Emotional injury" means an injury to the mental or psychological capacity or
24 emotional stability of a child as evidenced by a substantial and observable
25 impairment in the child's ability to function within a normal range of performance
26 and behavior with due regard to his or her age, development, culture, and
27 environment as testified to by a qualified mental health professional;

1 ~~(26)~~~~(27)~~ "Evidence-based practices" means policies, procedures, programs, and
2 practices proven by scientific research to reliably produce reductions in recidivism;

3 ~~(27)~~~~(28)~~ "Fictive kin" means an individual who is not related by birth, adoption, or
4 marriage to a child, but who has an emotionally significant relationship with the
5 child, or an emotionally significant relationship with a biological parent, siblings, or
6 half-siblings of the child in the case of a child from birth to twelve (12) months of
7 age, prior to placement;

8 ~~(28)~~~~(29)~~ "Firearm" shall have the same meaning as in KRS 237.060 and 527.010;

9 ~~(29)~~~~(30)~~ "Foster family home" means a private home in which children are placed for
10 foster family care under supervision of the cabinet or a licensed child-placing
11 agency;

12 ~~(30)~~~~(31)~~ "Graduated sanction" means any of a continuum of accountability measures,
13 programs, and sanctions, ranging from less restrictive to more restrictive in nature,
14 that may include but are not limited to:

15 (a) Electronic monitoring;

16 (b) Drug and alcohol screening, testing, or monitoring;

17 (c) Day or evening reporting centers;

18 (d) Reporting requirements;

19 (e) Community service; and

20 (f) Rehabilitative interventions such as family counseling, substance abuse
21 treatment, restorative justice programs, and behavioral or mental health
22 treatment;

23 **(31) "Group home" means a community-based and homelike residential treatment**
24 **facility for committed youth operated by the Department of Juvenile Justice;**

25 (32) "Habitual runaway" means any child who has been found by the court to have been
26 absent from his or her place of lawful residence without the permission of his or her
27 custodian for at least three (3) days during a one (1) year period;

- 1 (33) "Habitual truant" means any child who has been found by the court to have been
2 reported as a truant as defined in KRS 159.150(1) two (2) or more times during a
3 one (1) year period;
- 4 (34) "Hospital" means, except for purposes of KRS Chapter 645, a licensed private or
5 public facility, health care facility, or part thereof, which is approved by the cabinet
6 to treat children;
- 7 (35) "Independent living" means those activities necessary to assist a committed child to
8 establish independent living arrangements;
- 9 (36) "Informal adjustment" means an agreement reached among the parties, with
10 consultation, but not the consent, of the victim of the crime or other persons
11 specified in KRS 610.070 if the victim chooses not to or is unable to participate,
12 after a petition has been filed, which is approved by the court, that the best interest
13 of the child would be served without formal adjudication and disposition;
- 14 (37) "Intentionally" means, with respect to a result or to conduct described by a statute
15 which defines an offense, that the actor's conscious objective is to cause that result
16 or to engage in that conduct;
- 17 (38) "Least restrictive alternative" means, except for purposes of KRS Chapter 645, that
18 the program developed on the child's behalf is no more harsh, hazardous, or
19 intrusive than necessary; or involves no restrictions on physical movements nor
20 requirements for residential care except as reasonably necessary for the protection
21 of the child from physical injury; or protection of the community, and is conducted
22 at the suitable available facility closest to the child's place of residence to allow for
23 appropriate family engagement;
- 24 (39) "Motor vehicle offense" means any violation of the nonfelony provisions of KRS
25 Chapters 186, 189, or 189A, KRS 177.300, 304.39-110, or 304.39-117;
- 26 (40) "Near fatality" means an injury that, as certified by a physician, places a child in
27 serious or critical condition;

- 1 (41) "Needs of the child" means necessary food, clothing, health, shelter, and education;
- 2 (42) "Nonoffender" means a child alleged to be dependent, neglected, or abused and
3 who has not been otherwise charged with a status or public offense;
- 4 ~~(43) "Nonsecure facility" means a facility which provides its residents access to the
5 surrounding community and which does not rely primarily on the use of physically
6 restricting construction and hardware to restrict freedom;~~
- 7 ~~(44) "Nonsecure setting" means a nonsecure facility or a residential home, including a
8 child's own home, where a child may be temporarily placed pending further court
9 action. Children before the court in a county that is served by a state operated
10 secure detention facility, who are in the detention custody of the Department of
11 Juvenile Justice, and who are placed in a nonsecure alternative by the Department
12 of Juvenile Justice, shall be supervised by the Department of Juvenile Justice;~~
- 13 ~~(45)~~ "Out-of-home placement" means a placement other than in the home of a parent,
14 relative, or guardian, in a boarding home,~~clinical~~ treatment facility~~, community~~
15 ~~based facility~~, detention facility, emergency shelter, fictive kin home, foster family
16 home, hospital, ***secure juvenile detention***~~nonsecure facility, physically secure~~
17 facility, residential treatment facility, or~~youth~~ alternative ***to detention*** center.
18 ***"Out-of-home-placement" does not include a placement paid for by a parent,***
19 ***relative, or guardian;***
- 20 ~~(44)~~~~(46)~~ "Parent" means the biological or adoptive mother or father of a child;
- 21 ~~(45)~~~~(47)~~ "Person exercising custodial control or supervision" means a person or agency
22 that has assumed the role and responsibility of a parent or guardian for the child, but
23 that does not necessarily have legal custody of the child;
- 24 ~~(46)~~~~(48)~~ "Petition" means a verified statement, setting forth allegations in regard to the
25 child, which initiates formal court involvement in the child's case;
- 26 ~~(47)~~~~(49)~~ "Physical injury" means substantial physical pain or any impairment of
27 physical condition;

1 ~~[(50) "Physically secure facility" means a facility that relies primarily on the use of~~
2 ~~construction and hardware such as locks, bars, and fences to restrict freedom;]~~

3 **(48)**~~[(51)]~~ "Public offense action" means an action, excluding contempt, brought in the
4 interest of a child who is accused of committing an offense under KRS Chapter 527
5 or a public offense which, if committed by an adult, would be a crime, whether the
6 same is a felony, misdemeanor, or violation, other than an action alleging that a
7 child sixteen (16) years of age or older has committed a motor vehicle offense;

8 **(49)**~~[(52)]~~ "Qualified mental health professional" means:

- 9 (a) A physician licensed under the laws of Kentucky to practice medicine or
10 osteopathy, or a medical officer of the government of the United States while
11 engaged in the performance of official duties;
- 12 (b) A psychiatrist licensed under the laws of Kentucky to practice medicine or
13 osteopathy, or a medical officer of the government of the United States while
14 engaged in the practice of official duties, and who is certified or eligible to
15 apply for certification by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology,
16 Inc.;
- 17 (c) A psychologist with the health service provider designation, a psychological
18 practitioner, a certified psychologist, or a psychological associate licensed
19 under the provisions of KRS Chapter 319;
- 20 (d) A licensed registered nurse with a master's degree in psychiatric nursing from
21 an accredited institution and two (2) years of clinical experience with
22 mentally ill persons, or a licensed registered nurse with a bachelor's degree in
23 nursing from an accredited institution who is certified as a psychiatric and
24 mental health nurse by the American Nurses Association and who has three
25 (3) years of inpatient or outpatient clinical experience in psychiatric nursing
26 and who is currently employed by a hospital or forensic psychiatric facility
27 licensed by the Commonwealth or a psychiatric unit of a general hospital, a

- 1 private agency or company engaged in providing mental health services, or a
2 regional comprehensive care center;
- 3 (e) A licensed clinical social worker licensed under the provisions of KRS
4 335.100, or a certified social worker licensed under the provisions of KRS
5 335.080 with three (3) years of inpatient or outpatient clinical experience in
6 psychiatric social work and currently employed by a hospital or forensic
7 psychiatric facility licensed by the Commonwealth, a psychiatric unit of a
8 general hospital, a private agency or company engaged in providing mental
9 health services, or a regional comprehensive care center;
- 10 (f) A marriage and family therapist licensed under the provisions of KRS
11 335.300 to 335.399 with three (3) years of inpatient or outpatient clinical
12 experience in psychiatric mental health practice and currently employed by a
13 hospital or forensic psychiatric facility licensed by the Commonwealth, a
14 psychiatric unit of a general hospital, a private agency or company engaged in
15 providing mental health services, or a regional comprehensive care center;
- 16 (g) A professional counselor credentialed under the provisions of KRS 335.500 to
17 335.599 with three (3) years of inpatient or outpatient clinical experience in
18 psychiatric mental health practice and currently employed by a hospital or
19 forensic facility licensed by the Commonwealth, a psychiatric unit of a
20 general hospital, a private agency or company engaged in providing mental
21 health services, or a regional comprehensive care center; or
- 22 (h) A physician assistant licensed under KRS 311.840 to 311.862, who meets one
23 (1) of the following requirements:
- 24 1. Provides documentation that he or she has completed a psychiatric
25 residency program for physician assistants;
 - 26 2. Has completed at least one thousand (1,000) hours of clinical experience
27 under a supervising physician, as defined by KRS 311.840, who is a

1 psychiatrist and is certified or eligible for certification by the American
2 Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.;

3 3. Holds a master's degree from a physician assistant program accredited
4 by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the
5 Physician Assistant or its predecessor or successor agencies, is
6 practicing under a supervising physician as defined by KRS 311.840,
7 and:

8 a. Has two (2) years of clinical experience in the assessment,
9 evaluation, and treatment of mental disorders; or

10 b. Has been employed by a hospital or forensic psychiatric facility
11 licensed by the Commonwealth or a psychiatric unit of a general
12 hospital or a private agency or company engaged in the provision
13 of mental health services or a regional community program for
14 mental health and individuals with an intellectual disability for at
15 least two (2) years; or

16 4. Holds a bachelor's degree, possesses a current physician assistant
17 certificate issued by the board prior to July 15, 2002, is practicing under
18 a supervising physician as defined by KRS 311.840, and:

19 a. Has three (3) years of clinical experience in the assessment,
20 evaluation, and treatment of mental disorders; or

21 b. Has been employed by a hospital or forensic psychiatric facility
22 licensed by the Commonwealth or a psychiatric unit of a general
23 hospital or a private agency or company engaged in the provision
24 of mental health services or a regional community program for
25 mental health and individuals with an intellectual disability for at
26 least three (3) years;

27 (50) [(53)] "Reasonable and prudent parent standard" has the same meaning as in 42

1 U.S.C. sec. 675(10);

2 ~~(51)~~~~(54)~~ "Residential treatment facility" means a facility or group home with more
3 than eight (8) beds designated by the Department of Juvenile Justice or the cabinet
4 for the treatment of children;

5 ~~(52)~~~~(55)~~ "Retain in custody" means, after a child has been taken into custody, the
6 continued holding of the child by a peace officer for a period of time not to exceed
7 twelve (12) hours when authorized by the court or the court-designated worker for
8 the purpose of making preliminary inquiries;

9 ~~(53)~~~~(56)~~ "Risk and needs assessment" means an actuarial tool scientifically proven to
10 identify specific factors and needs that are related to delinquent and noncriminal
11 misconduct;

12 ~~(54)~~~~(57)~~ "School personnel" means those certified persons under the supervision of the
13 local public or private education agency;

14 ~~(55)~~~~(58)~~ "Secretary" means the secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family
15 Services;

16 ~~(56)~~~~(59)~~ "Secure juvenile detention facility" means any ~~physically secure~~ facility
17 used for the secure detention of children other than any facility in which adult
18 prisoners are confined;

19 ~~(57)~~~~(60)~~ "Serious physical injury" means physical injury which creates a substantial
20 risk of death or which causes serious and prolonged disfigurement, prolonged
21 impairment of health, or prolonged loss or impairment of the function of any bodily
22 member or organ;

23 ~~(58)~~~~(61)~~ "Sexual abuse" includes but is not necessarily limited to any contacts or
24 interactions in which the parent, guardian, person in a position of authority or
25 special trust, as defined in KRS 532.045, or other person having custodial control or
26 supervision of the child or responsibility for his or her welfare, uses or allows,
27 permits, or encourages the use of the child for the purposes of the sexual

1 stimulation of the perpetrator or another person;

2 (59)~~[(62)]~~ "Sexual exploitation" includes but is not limited to a situation in which a
3 parent, guardian, person in a position of authority or special trust, as defined in
4 KRS 532.045, or other person having custodial control or supervision of a child or
5 responsible for his or her welfare, allows, permits, or encourages the child to
6 engage in an act which constitutes prostitution under Kentucky law; or a parent,
7 guardian, person in a position of authority or special trust, as defined in KRS
8 532.045, or other person having custodial control or supervision of a child or
9 responsible for his or her welfare, allows, permits, or encourages the child to
10 engage in an act of obscene or pornographic photographing, filming, or depicting of
11 a child as provided for under Kentucky law;

12 (60)~~[(63)]~~ "Social service worker" means any employee of the cabinet or any private
13 agency designated as such by the secretary of the cabinet or a social worker
14 employed by a county or city who has been approved by the cabinet to provide,
15 under its supervision, services to families and children;

16 ~~[(64)] "Staff secure facility for residential treatment" means any setting which assures that
17 all entrances and exits are under the exclusive control of the facility staff, and in
18 which a child may reside for the purpose of receiving treatment;]~~

19 (61)~~[(65)]~~ (a) "Status offense action" is any action brought in the interest of a child
20 who is accused of committing acts, which if committed by an adult, would not
21 be a crime. Such behavior shall not be considered criminal or delinquent and
22 such children shall be termed status offenders. Status offenses shall include:

- 23 1. Beyond the control of school or beyond the control of parents;
- 24 2. Habitual runaway;
- 25 3. Habitual truant; and
- 26 4. Alcohol offenses as provided in KRS 244.085.

27 (b) Status offenses shall not include violations of state or local ordinances which

1 may apply to children such as a violation of curfew;

2 (62)~~((66))~~ "Take into custody" means the procedure by which a peace officer or other
3 authorized person initially assumes custody of a child. A child may be taken into
4 custody for a period of time not to exceed two (2) hours;

5 (63)~~((67))~~ "Transitional living support" means all benefits to which an eligible youth is
6 entitled upon being granted extended or reinstated commitment to the cabinet by the
7 court;

8 (64)~~((68))~~ "Transition plan" means a plan that is personalized at the direction of the
9 youth that:

10 (a) Includes specific options on housing, health insurance, education, local
11 opportunities for mentors and continuing support services, and workforce
12 supports and employment services; and

13 (b) Is as detailed as the youth may elect;

14 (65)~~((69))~~ "Valid court order" means a court order issued by a judge to a child alleged or
15 found to be a status offender:

16 (a) Who was brought before the court and made subject to the order;

17 (b) Whose future conduct was regulated by the order;

18 (c) Who was given written and verbal warning of the consequences of the
19 violation of the order at the time the order was issued and whose attorney or
20 parent or legal guardian was also provided with a written notice of the
21 consequences of violation of the order, which notification is reflected in the
22 record of the court proceedings; and

23 (d) Who received, before the issuance of the order, the full due process rights
24 guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States;

25 (66)~~((70))~~ "Violation" means any offense, other than a traffic infraction, for which a
26 sentence of a fine only can be imposed;

27 (67)~~((71))~~ "Youth alternative center" means a ~~nonsecure~~ facility, ***operated by a local***

1 **government and** approved by the Department of Juvenile Justice, for the detention
2 of juveniles, both prior to adjudication and after adjudication, which meets the
3 criteria specified in KRS 15A.320;

4 **(68) "Youth development center" means a residential treatment facility for committed**
5 **youth operated by the Department of Juvenile Justice;** and

6 **(69)**~~(72)~~ "Youthful offender" means any person regardless of age, transferred to Circuit
7 Court under the provisions of KRS Chapter 635 or 640 and who is subsequently
8 convicted in Circuit Court.

9 ➔Section 4. KRS 610.265 is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) **(a)** Any child who is alleged to be a status offender or who is accused of being in
11 contempt of court on an underlying finding that the child is a status offender
12 may be detained in~~[a nonsecure facility or]~~ a secure juvenile detention facility
13 **or in another facility approved by the Department of Juvenile Justice** for a
14 period of time not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours, exclusive of weekends
15 and holidays, pending a detention hearing.

16 **(b)** Any child who is accused of committing a public offense or of being in
17 contempt of court on an underlying public offense may be detained in a secure
18 juvenile detention facility or **another facility**~~[a nonsecure setting]~~ approved
19 by the Department of Juvenile Justice for a period of time not to exceed forty-
20 eight (48) hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, pending a detention
21 hearing.

22 (2) **Beginning February 1, 2026**~~[Beginning July 1, 2024]~~, any child accused of
23 committing a public offense that would be considered a violent felony offense as
24 defined in KRS 532.200 shall be detained in a secure juvenile detention facility for
25 a period of time not to exceed forty-eight (48) hours, exclusive of weekends and
26 holidays, pending a detention hearing, unless the detention hearing can be held
27 within the time allotted to peace officers to retain custody of the child pursuant to

1 KRS 610.200 or 610.220. This subsection shall not apply to any child ten (10) years
2 of age or younger.

3 (3) (a) Any child detained pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall be assessed
4 by a mental health professional, whose communications with the child shall
5 be confidential in conformity with the Kentucky Rules of Evidence, to
6 determine if the child exhibits behavior that indicates the child could benefit
7 from cognitive behavioral therapy, other evidence-based behavioral health
8 programs, substance use disorder treatment, or treatment in a psychiatric
9 facility for serious mental illness.

10 (b) Any treatment recommended under this subsection shall be provided by the
11 Department of Juvenile Justice and may be provided pursuant to a contract
12 between the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and a behavioral health
13 services organization.

14 (c) If the child is released upon a detention hearing, a court may order the child to
15 complete any recommended treatment. The Department of Juvenile Justice
16 shall refer the child to an existing contractor or to other resources for the
17 treatment.

18 (4) Any child detained pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall be permitted
19 visitation from individuals representing organizations including nonprofit
20 organizations, faith-based organizations, or community organizations, to connect
21 them with, expose them to, or minister to them through programs including but not
22 limited to trades, arts, sports, mentoring, counseling, support programs, or
23 community-based programs. These organizations may offer transition services to
24 any child who is released from detention.

25 (5) Within the period of detention described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section,
26 exclusive of weekends and holidays, a detention hearing shall be held by the judge
27 or trial commissioner of the court for the purpose of determining whether the child

1 shall be further detained. At the hearing held pursuant to this subsection, the court
2 shall consider the nature of the offense, the child's background and history, and
3 other information relevant to the child's conduct or condition.

- 4 (6) If the court orders a child detained further, that detention shall be served as follows:
- 5 (a) If the child is charged with a capital offense, Class A felony, or Class B
6 felony, detention shall occur in a secure juvenile detention facility pending the
7 child's next court appearance subject to the court's review of the detention
8 order prior to that court appearance;
- 9 (b) Except as provided in KRS 630.080(2), if it is alleged that the child is a status
10 offender, the child may be detained in a secure juvenile detention facility for a
11 period not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours after which detention shall occur
12 in a placement~~[nonsecure setting]~~ approved by the Department of Juvenile
13 Justice pending the child's next court appearance subject to the court's review
14 of the detention order prior to the next court appearance;
- 15 (c) If a status offender or a child alleged to be a status offender is charged with
16 violating a valid court order, the child may be detained in a secure juvenile
17 detention facility, or in another facility~~[a nonsecure setting]~~ approved by the
18 Department of Juvenile Justice, for a period not to exceed forty-eight (48)
19 hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, pending the child's next court
20 appearance;
- 21 (d) Prior to ordering a status offender or alleged status offender who is subject to
22 a valid court order securely detained because the child violated the valid court
23 order, the court shall:
- 24 1. Affirm that the requirements for a valid court order were met at the time
25 the original order was issued;
 - 26 2. Make a determination during the adjudicatory hearing that the child
27 violated the valid court order; and

- 1 3. Within forty-eight (48) hours after the adjudicatory hearing on the
2 violation of a valid court order by the child, exclusive of weekends and
3 holidays, receive and review a written report prepared by an appropriate
4 public agency that reviews the behavior of the child and the
5 circumstances under which the child was brought before the court,
6 determines the reasons for the child's behavior, and determines whether
7 all dispositions other than secure detention have been exhausted or are
8 inappropriate. If a prior written report is included in the child's file, that
9 report shall not be used to satisfy this requirement. The child may be
10 securely detained for a period not to exceed forty-eight (48) hours,
11 exclusive of weekends and holidays, pending receipt and review of the
12 report by the court. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with
13 KRS 610.060. The findings required by this ~~paragraph~~^{subsection}
14 shall be included in any order issued by the court which results in the
15 ~~secure or nonsecure~~ detention of a status offender; and
- 16 (e) If the child is charged with a public offense, or contempt on a public offense,
17 and the county in which the case is before the court is served by a state
18 operated secure detention facility under the statewide detention plan, the child
19 shall be referred to the Department of Juvenile Justice for a security
20 assessment and placement in an approved detention facility or program
21 pending the child's next court appearance.
- 22 (7) If, at the hearing conducted under subsection (5) of this section, the court conducts
23 an adjudicatory hearing on the merits of a violation of a valid court order, that
24 hearing shall conform to the requirements of KRS 630.080.
- 25 (8) If the detention hearing is not held as provided in subsection (1) of this section, the
26 child shall be released as provided in KRS 610.290.
- 27 (9) If the child is not released, the court-designated worker shall notify the parent,

1 person exercising custodial control or supervision, a relative, guardian, or other
2 responsible adult, and the Department of Juvenile Justice or the cabinet, as
3 appropriate.

4 ➔Section 5. KRS 610.340 is amended to read as follows:

- 5 (1) (a) Unless a specific provision of KRS Chapters 600 to 645 specifies otherwise,
6 all juvenile~~[-court]~~ records of any nature generated pursuant to KRS Chapters
7 600 to 645 by any agency or instrumentality, public or private, shall be
8 deemed to be confidential and shall not be disclosed except to the child,
9 parent, victims, or other persons authorized to attend a juvenile court hearing
10 pursuant to KRS 610.070 unless ordered by the court for good cause.
- 11 (b) Juvenile~~[-court]~~ records which contain information pertaining to arrests,
12 petitions, adjudications, and dispositions of a child may be disclosed to
13 victims or other persons authorized to attend a juvenile court hearing pursuant
14 to KRS 610.070.
- 15 (c) Release of the child's treatment, medical, mental, or psychological records is
16 prohibited unless presented as evidence in Circuit Court. Any records
17 resulting from the child's prior abuse and neglect under Title IV-E or Title IV-
18 B of the Federal Social Security Act shall not be disclosed to victims or other
19 persons authorized to attend a juvenile court hearing pursuant to KRS
20 610.070.
- 21 (d) Victim access under this subsection to juvenile court records shall include
22 access to records of adjudications that occurred prior to July 15, 1998.
- 23 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to public officers or employees
24 engaged in the investigation of and in the prosecution of cases under KRS Chapters
25 600 to 645 or other portions of the Kentucky Revised Statutes. Any record obtained
26 pursuant to this subsection shall be used for official use only, shall not be disclosed
27 publicly, and shall be exempt from disclosure under the Open Records Act, KRS

1 61.870 to 61.884.

2 (3) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any peace officer, as defined in
3 KRS 446.010, who is engaged in the investigation or prosecution of cases under
4 KRS Chapters 600 to 645 or other portions of the Kentucky Revised Statutes. Any
5 record obtained pursuant to this subsection shall be used for official use only, shall
6 not be disclosed publicly, and shall be exempt from disclosure under the Open
7 Records Act, KRS 61.870 to 61.884.

8 (4) The provisions of this section shall not apply to employees of the Department of
9 Juvenile Justice or cabinet or its designees responsible for any services under KRS
10 Chapters 600 to 645, or to attorneys for parties involved in actions relating to KRS
11 Chapters 600 to 645, or other prosecutions authorized by the Kentucky Revised
12 Statutes. **Any records obtained by an individual designated in this subsection may**
13 **be used by the individual in the course and scope of his or her employment or**
14 **representation but shall not be disclosed to any third party without a court order.**

15 (5) The provisions of this section shall not apply to records disclosed pursuant to KRS
16 610.320 or to public or private elementary and secondary school administrative,
17 transportation, and counseling personnel, to any teacher or school employee with
18 whom the student may come in contact, or to persons entitled to have juvenile
19 records under KRS 610.345, if the possession and use of the records is in
20 compliance with the provisions of KRS 610.345 and this section.

21 (6) The provisions of this section shall not apply to employees of local law
22 enforcement agencies, the Department of Kentucky State Police, or the Federal
23 Bureau of Investigation engaged in conducting background checks for the sole
24 purpose of identifying and providing potentially disqualifying juvenile public
25 offense records to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System
26 pursuant to Div. A, Title II, Sec. 12001(a) of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act,
27 Pub. L. No. 117-159. Notwithstanding KRS 635.040, an adjudication for a public

1 offense is a conviction of a crime for purposes of 18 U.S.C. sec. 922(d)(1), (3), or
2 (9). Any public offense record obtained pursuant to this subsection shall be used for
3 official use only, not be disclosed publicly, and be exempt from disclosure under
4 the Open Records Act, KRS 61.870 to 61.884.

5 (7) (a) The provisions of this section shall not apply to records or proceedings in any
6 case in which a child has made an admission to or been adjudicated for a
7 violent felony offense as defined in KRS 532.200 until the expiration of a
8 three (3) year period from the date of admission or adjudication.

9 (b) If the child has not received any additional public offense convictions during
10 the three (3) year period from the date of admission or adjudication, all
11 records in the case shall be automatically sealed and shall not be disclosed
12 consistent with the provisions of this section.

13 (c) As used in this subsection, "admission" means a formal admission in a case,
14 on the record, upon the waiving of an adjudication hearing.

15 (8) No person, including school personnel, shall disclose any confidential record or any
16 information contained in the confidential record~~[therein]~~ except as permitted by
17 this section or other specific section of KRS Chapters 600 to 645, or except as
18 permitted by specific order of the court.

19 (9) No person, including school personnel, authorized to obtain records pursuant to
20 KRS Chapters 600 to 645 shall obtain or attempt to obtain confidential records to
21 which he or she is not entitled or for purposes for which he or she is not permitted
22 to obtain them pursuant to KRS Chapters 600 to 645.

23 (10) No person, including school personnel, not authorized to obtain records pursuant to
24 KRS Chapters 600 to 645 shall obtain or attempt to obtain records which are made
25 confidential pursuant to KRS Chapters 600 to 645 except upon proper motion to a
26 court of competent jurisdiction.

27 (11) No person shall destroy or attempt to destroy any record required to be kept

1 pursuant to KRS Chapters 600 to 645 unless the destruction is permitted pursuant to
2 KRS Chapters 600 to 645 and is authorized by the court upon proper motion and
3 good cause for the destruction being shown.

4 (12) As used in this section the term "KRS Chapters 600 to 645" includes any
5 administrative regulations which are lawfully promulgated **in accordance with KRS**
6 **Chapter 13A and** pursuant to KRS Chapters 600 to 645.

7 (13) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a crime victim from speaking
8 publicly after the adjudication about his or her case on matters within his or her
9 knowledge or on matters disclosed to the victim during any aspect of a juvenile
10 court proceeding.

11 **(14) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Department of**
12 **Juvenile Justice may publicly release information regarding a child if the child**
13 **absconds or escapes from a Department of Juvenile Justice facility or placement**
14 **to assist in securing the safe return of the child. Information released by the**
15 **Department of Juvenile Justice may include:**

16 **(a) The child's:**

17 **1. Name and home county of residence;**

18 **2. Physical description; and**

19 **3. Photograph;**

20 **(b) The name of the facility from which they absconded or escaped; and**

21 **(c) A statement that the public should exercise caution and should notify law**
22 **enforcement immediately if the child is seen.**

23 **(15) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, when any adult or**
24 **juvenile who is the subject of information designated as confidential in this**
25 **section publicly reveals or causes to be revealed any significant part of the**
26 **confidential matter or information by filing a civil suit, the confidentiality shall**
27 **be presumed voluntarily waived, and the Department of Juvenile Justice or the**

1 *cabinet may, in the defense of the litigation, disclose confidential information and*
 2 *records about the person making or causing the public disclosure, including*
 3 *information that has not been previously disclosed but is related to the*
 4 *information made public.*

5 ➔Section 6. KRS 645.280 is amended to read as follows:

6 (1) No child held under the provisions of this chapter shall be held in a secure juvenile
 7 detention facility unless a status offense action or public offense action is also
 8 pending~~[. No peace officer or any other person shall bring a status offense action or~~
 9 ~~a public offense action against a child who is mentally ill and in need of~~
 10 ~~hospitalization pursuant to this chapter solely or primarily for the purpose of~~
 11 ~~avoiding transporting the child to a hospital, mental health facility, or other less~~
 12 ~~restrictive alternative].~~

13 (2) If, after evaluation, the qualified mental health professional finds that the child does
 14 not meet the criteria for involuntary hospitalization and the peace officer has reason
 15 to believe that the child has committed a status offense or public offense, the peace
 16 officer may proceed in accordance with KRS 610.190 to 610.290.

17 ➔Section 7. KRS 15A.0652 is amended to read as follows:

18 The Department of Juvenile Justice shall promulgate administrative regulations that shall
 19 include:

20 (1) Development or adoption of a validated risk and needs assessment that:

21 (a) Considers factors such as the severity of the current offense, the child's
 22 previous public offense record, and the child's assessed criminal risk factors;

23 (b) Is administered for all children adjudicated on a public offense prior to
 24 disposition and at regular intervals thereafter to determine risk levels and to
 25 identify intervention needs; and

26 (c) Is implemented based on policies and practices for utilization of the
 27 assessment instrument to objectively guide placement and the length and type

1 of treatment for each child committed to the department or probated to the
2 department or other entity;

3 (2) The provision of treatment for committed and probated children in accordance with
4 evidence-based practices, including, at a minimum:

5 (a) Development of a case plan for each child committed to the department or
6 probated to the department that targets the risk factors identified in the
7 assessment, is responsive to individual characteristics, involves the family as
8 appropriate, provides supervision or monitoring of children according to their
9 case plan, and establishes a treatment plan in accordance with subsection (3)
10 of this section; and

11 (b) Development and implementation of a graduated sanctions protocol of swift,
12 certain, proportionate, and graduated sanctions that a probation officer or
13 employee of the department shall apply in response to a child's violations of
14 the terms or conditions of probation. The graduated sanctions protocol shall:

15 1. Include a continuum of sanctions that take into account factors such as
16 the severity of the current violation, the child's previous criminal record,
17 the number and severity of any previous probation violations, the child's
18 assessed risk level, and the extent to which graduated sanctions were
19 imposed for previous violations. The system shall also define positive
20 reinforcements that the probated child may receive for compliance with
21 his or her terms or conditions of probation. A sanction of up to thirty
22 (30) days' out-of-home placement may be imposed for a violation of the
23 terms of probation. A child shall not be committed or recommitted to the
24 Department of Juvenile Justice for the violation of the conditions of
25 probation;

26 2. Provide that judicial review for a probated youth, or an administrative
27 hearing for a committed youth, shall not be necessary to impose

- 1 graduated sanctions less than out-of-home placement; and
- 2 3. Require that less-restrictive graduated sanctions be utilized prior to
- 3 requesting judicial review unless there is clear and convincing evidence
- 4 that there are no graduated sanctions available that are appropriate for
- 5 the child and the child is an immediate threat to himself, herself, or
- 6 others;
- 7 (3) Development and implementation of treatment plans for committed and probated
- 8 children that:
- 9 (a) Take into consideration the severity of the current offense and the child's
- 10 assessed risk and needs as identified by a validated risk and needs assessment;
- 11 (b) Involve the family in the treatment plan as appropriate;
- 12 (c) Allow a child to complete treatment in the community if resources are
- 13 available rather than in a ~~secure or nonsecure~~ facility; and
- 14 (d) For committed children may include:
- 15 1. A maximum of four (4) months of out-of-home placement if the child
- 16 was adjudicated for an offense that would be a misdemeanor if
- 17 committed by an adult, other than a violation of KRS Chapter 510 or an
- 18 offense involving a deadly weapon;
- 19 2. A maximum of eight (8) months of out-of-home placement if the child
- 20 was adjudicated for an offense that would be a Class D felony if
- 21 committed by an adult, other than a violation of KRS Chapter 510 or an
- 22 offense involving a deadly weapon; and
- 23 3. A provision that if a child has reached the maximum time allowed in
- 24 out-of-home placement, as specified in subparagraphs 1. and 2. of this
- 25 paragraph and further out-of-home placement is determined to be
- 26 necessary for completion of treatment, the child may be held for an
- 27 additional period only upon approval of the Administrative Transfer

1 Request Committee, or another appropriate entity within the department
2 as designated by the commissioner of the department after review of the
3 facts and circumstances warranting the need for continued out-of-home
4 placement. If the commissioner approves continued out-of-home
5 placement, the maximum time the placement may be continued is the
6 maximum originally allowed under subparagraphs 1. and 2. of this
7 paragraph and the total period of commitment shall not exceed that
8 permitted under KRS 635.060;

9 (4) Development and implementation of professional development programs for
10 department staff who interact with or who are responsible for the treatment,
11 supervision, or placement of children, that includes training on juvenile justice
12 research relating to effectiveness of juvenile justice interventions, impacts of out-
13 of-home placement, alternatives to incarceration, use of graduated sanctions, case
14 planning, administration of a validated risk and needs assessment, and training to
15 address specific issues such as domestic violence, trauma, and family engagement;

16 (5) Development of procedures for measuring the outcomes of each treatment and
17 intervention program and practice to demonstrate that the program or practice has a
18 documented evidence base and has been evaluated for effectiveness in reducing
19 recidivism for the children it serves, including:

20 (a) A process for reviewing the objective criteria for evidence-based programs
21 and practices established by the agency providing the program;

22 (b) A process for auditing the effectiveness of the programs; and

23 (c) An opportunity for programs that do not meet the criteria based on the audit
24 results to develop and implement a corrective action plan within one hundred
25 eighty (180) days of the audit;

26 (6) Development of procedures to track juvenile recidivism, which shall include
27 adjudication of a new public offense or conviction of a crime within three (3) years

1 of release from an out-of-home placement or release from commitment, and
 2 collaboration with the Department of Corrections and the Administrative Office of
 3 the Courts to obtain adult conviction and incarceration information to enable
 4 collection of recidivism data;

5 (7) Development of procedures to track the pre-adjudication and post-adjudication
 6 admissions beginning no later than August 1, 2014; and

7 (8) Development of procedures to ensure maximum utilization of available federal
 8 funding resources which may be available to the agency.

9 As used in this section, "evidence-based practices," "graduated sanction," "out-of-home
 10 placement," and "risk and needs assessment" have the same meanings as in KRS 600.020.

11 ➔Section 8. KRS 15A.200 is amended to read as follows:

12 As used in KRS 15A.210 to 15A.240 and KRS 15A.990:

13 (1) "Certified juvenile facility staff" means individuals who meet the qualifications of,
 14 and who have completed a course of education and training developed and
 15 approved by, the Department of Juvenile Justice;

16 (2) "Secure juvenile detention facility" means any facility used for the secure detention
 17 of children other than a jail, police station, lockup, or any building which is a part
 18 of or attached to any facility in which adult prisoners are confined or which shares
 19 staff with a facility in which adult prisoners are confined;

20 (3) "Youth alternative center" means a ~~nonsecure~~ facility, **operated by a local**
 21 **government and** approved by the Department of Juvenile Justice, for the
 22 ~~nonsecure~~ detention of juveniles, **both prior to adjudication and after**
 23 **adjudication, which meets the criteria specified in Section 9 of this Act**; and

24 (4) The term "facility" or "facilities" as used in KRS 15A.210 to 15A.240 shall mean
 25 the facilities defined in this section.

26 ➔Section 9. KRS 15A.320 is amended to read as follows:

27 (1) Any county **government**, urban-county **government, consolidated local**

1 **government, unified local government**, or charter county **government** may apply to
2 the Department of Juvenile Justice to construct, operate, or contract for the
3 operation of a youth alternative center.

4 (2) The youth alternative center ~~shall be a nonsecure facility and~~ shall be under the
5 jurisdiction of that governing body, subject to the provisions of this chapter.

6 (3) The youth alternative center shall be used only for the detention of juveniles. The
7 youth alternative center shall not be part of a county jail or other facility that houses
8 adult offenders.

9 (4) The youth alternative center may be used as a place of detention for juveniles by
10 order of a court prior to adjudication and after adjudication regardless of whether
11 the child is a status offender, public offender, or youthful offender.

12 ➔Section 10. KRS 508.025 is amended to read as follows:

13 (1) A person is guilty of assault in the third degree when the actor:

14 (a) Recklessly, with a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, or intentionally
15 causes or attempts to cause physical injury to:

16 1. A state, county, city, or federal peace officer;

17 2. An employee of a detention facility~~;~~ or state residential treatment
18 facility ~~or state staff secure facility for residential treatment~~ which
19 provides for the care, treatment, or detention of a juvenile charged with
20 or adjudicated delinquent because of a public offense or as a youthful
21 offender;

22 3. A healthcare provider as defined in KRS 311.821, if the event occurs
23 while the healthcare provider is providing medical care in an emergency
24 room of a hospital;

25 4. An employee of the Department for Community Based Services
26 employed as a social worker to provide direct client services, if the
27 event occurs while the worker is performing job-related duties;

- 1 5. Paid or volunteer emergency medical services personnel certified or
2 licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 311A, if the event occurs while
3 personnel are performing job-related duties;
- 4 6. A paid or volunteer member of an organized fire department, if the
5 event occurs while the member is performing job-related duties;
- 6 7. Paid or volunteer rescue squad personnel affiliated with the Division of
7 Emergency Management of the Department of Military Affairs or a
8 local disaster and emergency services organization pursuant to KRS
9 Chapter 39F, if the event occurs while personnel are performing job-
10 related duties;
- 11 8. A probation and parole officer;
- 12 9. A transportation officer appointed by a county fiscal court or legislative
13 body of a consolidated local government, urban-county government, or
14 charter government to transport inmates when the county jail or county
15 correctional facility is closed while the transportation officer is
16 performing job-related duties;
- 17 10. A public or private elementary or secondary school or school district
18 classified or certified employee, school bus driver, or other school
19 employee acting in the course and scope of the employee's employment;
20 or
- 21 11. A public or private elementary or secondary school or school district
22 volunteer acting in the course and scope of that person's volunteer
23 service for the school or school district;
- 24 (b) Being a person confined in a detention facility, or a juvenile in a state
25 residential treatment facility, ~~or a state staff secure facility for residential~~
26 ~~treatment~~ which provides for the care, treatment, or detention of a juvenile
27 charged with or adjudicated delinquent because of a public offense or as a

1 youthful offender, inflicts physical injury upon or throws or causes feces, or
2 urine, or other bodily fluid to be thrown upon an employee of the facility; or

3 (c) Intentionally causes a person, whom the actor knows or reasonably should
4 know to be a peace officer discharging official duties, to come into contact
5 with saliva, vomit, mucus, blood, seminal fluid, urine, or feces without the
6 consent of the peace officer.

7 (2) (a) For a violation of subsection (1)(a) of this section, assault in the third degree
8 is a Class D felony, unless the offense occurs during a declared emergency as
9 defined by KRS 39A.020 arising from a natural or man-made disaster, within
10 the area covered by the emergency declaration, and within the area impacted
11 by the disaster, in which case it is a Class C felony.

12 (b) For a violation of subsection (1)(b) of this section, assault in the third degree
13 is a Class D felony.

14 (c) For violations of subsection (1)(c) of this section, assault in the third degree is
15 a Class B misdemeanor, unless the assault is with saliva, vomit, mucus, blood,
16 seminal fluid, urine, or feces from an adult who knows that he or she has a
17 serious communicable disease and competent medical or epidemiological
18 evidence demonstrates that the specific type of contact caused by the actor is
19 likely to cause transmission of the disease or condition, in which case it is a
20 Class A misdemeanor.

21 (d) As used in paragraph (c) of this subsection, "serious communicable disease"
22 means a non-airborne disease that is transmitted from person to person and
23 determined to have significant, long-term consequences on the physical health
24 or life activities of the person infected.

25 ➔Section 11. KRS 610.012 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) The District Court or the family division of the Circuit Court shall have exclusive
27 jurisdiction of proceedings under this section.

- 1 (2) Proceedings to temporarily detain a child suspected of being a runaway by means of
2 an emergency protective custody order, pending further appropriate court action,
3 shall be initiated by filing a complaint with the court-designated worker.
- 4 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a child who is
5 suspected of being a runaway may be detained in a ~~nonsecure~~ facility ***other than a***
6 ***secure juvenile detention facility*** for a period of time not to exceed seventy-two
7 (72) hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, or, if the court makes a finding on
8 the record that no less restrictive alternative is available, in a secure juvenile
9 detention facility for a period of time not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours,
10 exclusive of weekends and holidays, pursuant to an ex parte emergency protective
11 order pending a court hearing to determine whether to return the child to his or her
12 custodian or give custody of the child to the cabinet.
- 13 (4) If, at the hearing held as provided for in subsection (3) of this section, the child is
14 not released, the court shall issue an emergency custody order pursuant to KRS
15 Chapter 620 and place the child with the cabinet and the cabinet shall file a
16 dependency, neglect, or abuse action.
- 17 (5) All hearings subsequent to the issuance of an emergency custody order shall be in
18 accordance with KRS Chapter 620.
- 19 (6) If the child is released, except to the cabinet pursuant to an emergency custody
20 order, the court-designated worker shall initiate a status offense case.
- 21 (7) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a child coming under the purview
22 of KRS Chapter 615.
- 23 ➔Section 12. KRS 610.200 is amended to read as follows:
- 24 (1) When a peace officer has taken or received a child into custody on a charge of
25 committing an offense, the officer shall immediately inform the child of his ***or her***
26 constitutional rights and afford ***the child*** ~~him~~ the protections required thereunder,
27 notify the parent, or if the child is committed, the Department of Juvenile Justice or

1 the cabinet, as appropriate, and if the parent is not available, then a relative,
2 guardian, or person exercising custodial control or supervision of the child, that the
3 child has been taken into custody, give an account of specific charges against the
4 child, including the specific statute alleged to have been violated, and the reasons
5 for taking the child into custody.

- 6 (2) (a) When a peace officer has taken or received a child into protective custody on
7 suspicion of being a runaway, the officer shall immediately notify:
- 8 1. The child's parent, guardian, or person exercising custodial control or
9 supervision of the child, if determined;
 - 10 2. The cabinet or Department of Juvenile Justice, if appropriate; and
 - 11 3. The court-designated worker.
- 12 (b) If the parent, guardian, or other person exercising custodial control or
13 supervision is identified and notified, the peace officer may retain custody of
14 the child for a reasonable period to allow the person notified the opportunity
15 to arrive at the officer's location and collect the child.
- 16 (c) If the parent, guardian, or other person exercising custodial control or
17 supervision cannot be identified or located, the peace officer may retain
18 custody of the child for a period of time not to exceed two (2) hours to
19 continue his or her investigation.
- 20 (d) If, at the conclusion of the peace officer's investigation, the parent, guardian,
21 or person exercising custodial control or supervision of the child is identified
22 and notified, the peace officer shall return the child to the custody of that
23 person and shall file a status offense case with the court-designated worker.
- 24 (e) If, at the conclusion of the peace officer's investigation, the parent, guardian,
25 or person exercising custodial control or supervision of the child cannot be
26 identified or located, or that person refuses to collect the child, the peace
27 officer shall file a complaint pursuant to KRS 610.012.

- 1 (3) Unless the child is subject to trial as an adult or unless the nature of the offense or
2 other circumstances are such as to indicate the necessity of retaining the child in
3 custody, the officer shall release the child to the custody of his ***or her*** parent or if
4 the child is committed, the Department of Juvenile Justice or the cabinet, as
5 appropriate; or if the parent is not available, then a relative, guardian, or person
6 exercising custodial control or supervision or other responsible person or agency
7 approved by the court upon the written promise, signed by such person or agency,
8 to bring the child to the court at a stated time or at such time as the court may order.
9 The written promise, accompanied by a written report by the officer, shall be
10 submitted forthwith to the court or court-designated worker and shall detail the
11 reasons for having taken custody of the child, the release of the child, the person to
12 whom the child was released, and the reasons for the release.
- 13 (4) (a) If the person fails to produce the child as agreed, or upon notice from the
14 Court as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a summons, warrant, or
15 custody order may be issued for the apprehension of the person or of the
16 child, or both.
- 17 (b) If the person notified to collect a suspected runaway pursuant to subsection
18 (2)(a) of this section fails or refuses to collect the child, the peace officer shall
19 notify the county attorney, who may file a charge of endangering the welfare
20 of a minor, and the cabinet.
- 21 (5) The release of a child pursuant to this section shall not preclude a peace officer
22 from proceeding with a complaint against a child or any other person.
- 23 (6) Unless the child is subject to trial as an adult, if the child is not released, the peace
24 officer shall contact the court-designated worker who may:
- 25 (a) Release the child to his ***or her*** parents;
- 26 (b) Release the child to such other persons or organizations as are authorized by
27 law;

- 1 (c) Release the child to either of the above subject to stated conditions; or
- 2 (d) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, authorize the peace
- 3 officer to retain custody of the child for an additional period not to exceed
- 4 twelve (12) hours during which the peace officer may transport the child to a
- 5 secure juvenile detention facility or another~~[a nonsecure]~~ facility. If the child
- 6 is retained in custody, the court-designated worker shall give notice to the
- 7 child's parents or person exercising custodial control or supervision of the fact
- 8 that the child is being retained in custody.

- 9 (7) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, no child ten (10) years
- 10 of age or under shall be taken to or placed in a juvenile detention facility.
- 11 (b) Any child ten (10) years of age or under who has been charged with the
- 12 commission of a capital offense or with an offense designated as a Class A or
- 13 Class B felony may be taken to or placed in a secure juvenile detention
- 14 facility or youth alternative center when there is no available less restrictive
- 15 alternative.

16 ➔Section 13. KRS 610.220 is amended to read as follows:

- 17 (1) Except as otherwise provided by statute, if an officer takes or receives a child into
- 18 custody on an allegation of committing a public offense or into protective custody
- 19 on being a suspected runaway, the child may be held at a police station, secure
- 20 juvenile detention facility, youth alternative center, another~~[a nonsecure]~~ facility,
- 21 or, as necessary, in a hospital or clinic for the following purposes:
- 22 (a) Identification and booking;
- 23 (b) Attempting to notify the parents or person exercising custodial control or
- 24 supervision of the child, a relative, guardian, other responsible person, or the
- 25 cabinet;
- 26 (c) Photographing;
- 27 (d) Fingerprinting;

- 1 (e) Physical examinations, including examinations for evidence;
- 2 (f) Evidence collection, including scientific tests;
- 3 (g) Records checks;
- 4 (h) Determining whether the child is subject to trial as an adult; and
- 5 (i) Other inquiries of a preliminary nature.

6 (2) A child may be held in custody pursuant to this section for a period of time not to
7 exceed two (2) hours, unless an extension of time is granted. Permission for an
8 extension of time may be granted by the court, trial commissioner, or court-
9 designated worker pursuant to KRS 610.200(6)(d) and the child may be retained in
10 custody for up to an additional ten (10) hours at a facility of the type listed in
11 subsection (1) of this section except for an intermittent holding facility for the
12 period of retention.

13 (3) Any child held in custody pursuant to this section shall be sight and sound separated
14 from any adult prisoners held in secure custody at the same location, and shall not
15 be handcuffed to or otherwise securely attached to any stationary object.

16 ➔Section 14. KRS 620.095 is amended to read as follows:

17 A nonoffender, as defined in KRS 600.020, shall not be placed in ~~secure or nonsecure~~
18 detention.

19 ➔Section 15. KRS 630.040 is amended to read as follows:

20 Any person taking a child into custody, with all reasonable speed, shall in this sequence:

21 (1) Deliver the child suffering from a physical condition or illness which requires
22 prompt medical treatment to a medical facility or physician. Children suspected of
23 having a mental or emotional illness shall be evaluated in accordance with ~~the~~
24 ~~provisions of~~ KRS Chapter 645 **or as provided under Section 1 of this Act;**

25 (2) Contact a court designated worker who shall have the responsibility for determining
26 appropriate placement pursuant to KRS 610.200(5);

27 (3) If the court designated worker determines that the placements designated in KRS

1 610.200(5) and subsection (1) of this section have been exhausted or are not
2 appropriate, a child may be delivered to a secure juvenile detention facility, a
3 juvenile holding facility, or another facility~~[a nonsecure setting]~~ approved by the
4 Department of Juvenile Justice pending the detention hearing;

5 (4) When the child has not been released to his or her parents or person exercising
6 custodial control or supervision, the person taking the child into custody shall make
7 a reasonable effort promptly to give oral notice to the parent or person exercising
8 custodial control or supervision of the child;

9 (5) In all instances the peace officer taking a child into custody shall provide a written
10 statement to the court designated worker of the reasons for taking the child into
11 custody;

12 (6) If the child is placed in an emergency shelter or medical facility, during the
13 adjudication and disposition of his or her case, the court may order the child's~~[his]~~
14 parents to be responsible for the expense of the child's~~[his]~~ care; and

15 (7) The peace officer taking the child into custody shall within three (3) hours of taking
16 a child into custody file a complaint with the court, stating the basis for taking the
17 child into custody and the reason why the child was not released to the parent or
18 other adult exercising custodial control or supervision of the child, relative or other
19 responsible adult, a court designated agency, an emergency shelter or medical
20 facility. Pending further disposition of the case, the court or the court designated
21 worker may release the child to the custody of any responsible adult who can
22 provide adequate care and supervision.

23 ➔Section 16. KRS 630.080 is amended to read as follows:

24 (1) In order for the court to detain a child after the detention hearing, the
25 Commonwealth shall establish probable cause at the detention hearing that the child
26 is a status offender and that further detention of the child is necessary for the
27 protection of the child or the community. If the Commonwealth fails to establish

1 probable cause that the child is a status offender, the complaint shall be dismissed
2 and the child shall be released. If the Commonwealth establishes probable cause
3 that the child is a status offender, but that further detention of the child is not
4 necessary for the protection of the child or the community, the child shall be
5 released to the parent or person exercising custodial control or supervision of the
6 child. If grounds are established that the child is a status offender, and that further
7 detention is necessary, the child may be placed in a facility other than a secure
8 detention facility~~[nonsecure setting]~~ approved by the Department of Juvenile
9 Justice;

10 (2) A status offender may be securely detained if the cabinet has initiated or intends to
11 initiate transfer of the youth by competent document under~~[the provisions of]~~ the
12 interstate compact pursuant to KRS Chapter 615;

13 (3) The appropriate public agency shall:

14 (a) Within twenty-four (24) hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, of
15 receiving notification, as provided in KRS 15A.305~~[(3)]~~, that a status offender
16 or alleged status offender has been detained on the allegation that the child
17 has violated a valid court order, meet with and interview the child; and

18 (b) Within forty-eight (48) hours, exclusive of weekend and holidays, of the
19 detention hearing required under KRS 610.265, prepare and deliver to the
20 court the completed written report required by subsection (4) of this section
21 and KRS 610.265 if the child remains in detention after the detention hearing,
22 and prior to the disposition hearing if the child has not been detained; and

23 (4) A status offender or alleged status offender who is subject to a valid court order
24 may be securely detained upon a finding that the child violated the valid court order
25 if the court does the following prior to ordering that detention:

26 (a) Affirms that the requirements for a valid court order were met at the time the
27 original order was issued;

- 1 (b) Makes a determination during the adjudicatory hearing that the child violated
2 the valid court order; and
- 3 (c) Within forty-eight (48) hours after the adjudicatory hearing on the violation of
4 a valid court order by the child, exclusive of weekends and holidays, the court
5 receives and reviews a written report prepared by an appropriate public
6 agency that reviews the behavior of the child and the circumstances under
7 which the child was brought before the court, determines the reasons for the
8 child's behavior, and determines whether all dispositions other than secure
9 detention have been exhausted or are inappropriate. If a prior written report is
10 included in the child's file, that report shall not be used to satisfy this
11 requirement. The child may be securely detained for a period not to exceed
12 forty-eight (48) hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, pending receipt
13 and review of the report by the court. The hearing shall be conducted in
14 accordance with the provisions of KRS 610.060. The findings required by this
15 subsection shall be included in any order issued by the court which results in
16 the ~~secure or nonsecure~~ detention of a status offender.

17 ➔Section 17. KRS 630.160 is amended to read as follows:

18 Notwithstanding any provision of KRS Chapter 520 to the contrary, no child accused of
19 being or who has been adjudicated as a status offender, or who has been accused of or
20 held in contempt of court based upon an underlying finding that the child is a status
21 offender~~[who is absent without leave from a nonsecure detention option or home~~
22 ~~detention, or who fails to comply with the conditions of supervised placement]~~, shall be
23 charged with escape for~~[being absent without leave or]~~ failing to comply with the
24 conditions of supervised placement.

25 ➔Section 18. KRS 635.055 is amended to read as follows:

26 No child who is found to be in contempt of court shall be committed as a public offender
27 as a result of such finding, nor detained because of such finding in a facility other than a

1 secure juvenile detention facility, youth alternative center, an alternative to detention
2 program approved by the Department of Juvenile Justice, or *in another placement*
3 *approved by the Department of Justice*~~[a nonsecure detention alternative]~~. An order of
4 detention for a child found in contempt shall not exceed thirty (30) days.

5 ➔Section 19. KRS 645.020 is amended to read as follows:

6 The definitions in KRS Chapter 600 shall apply to this chapter. In addition, unless the
7 context requires otherwise:

8 (1) "Convalescent leave" means an authorized release not to exceed ninety (90) days of
9 a child admitted to a hospital under this chapter;

10 (2) "Danger to self or others" means that it is shown by substantial proof that in the
11 near future the child may attempt suicide or may cause substantial physical harm or
12 threat of substantial physical harm to self or others, as evidenced by recent threats
13 or overt acts, including acts by which the child deprives self or others of the basic
14 means of survival, including reasonable shelter, food or clothing. In determining
15 whether a child presents a danger to self, factors to be considered shall include, but
16 shall not be limited to, an established pattern of past dangerous behavior;

17 (3) "Hospital" means a licensed private or public institution, health care facility, or part
18 thereof, approved by the cabinet to treat children who are mentally ill;

19 (4) "Least restrictive alternative" means the treatment and conditions of treatment for a
20 child which, separately and in combination:

21 (a) Are no more harsh, hazardous or intrusive than necessary to achieve
22 acceptable treatment objectives for the child; and

23 (b) Involve no inpatient care restrictions on physical movement except as
24 reasonably necessary for the administration of treatment or for the protection
25 of the child or others from physical injury.

26 In determining the least restrictive alternative, factors to be considered shall
27 include, but not be limited to, the likelihood, based on the child's prior outpatient

- 1 treatment, that the child will benefit from outpatient treatment;
- 2 (5) "Mental health facility" means a residential or nonresidential service providing
3 children psychological or psychiatric treatment for emotional, mental, or behavioral
4 problems;
- 5 (6) "Mental health group home" means a ~~community-based~~ facility established to
6 serve not less than four (4) nor more than eight (8) mentally ill children with a
7 treatment program developed and supervised by a qualified mental health
8 professional. Mental health group homes shall not be adjacent to or part of a
9 residential treatment facility or a hospital;
- 10 (7) "Mental health professional" means:
- 11 (a) A physician licensed under the laws of Kentucky to practice medicine or
12 osteopathy, or a medical officer of the government of the United States while
13 engaged in conducting mental health services;
- 14 (b) A psychiatrist licensed under the laws of Kentucky to practice medicine or
15 osteopathy, or a medical officer of the government of the United States
16 engaged in conducting mental health services;
- 17 (c) A psychologist, a psychological practitioner, a certified psychologist, or a
18 psychological associate, licensed under the provisions of KRS Chapter 319;
- 19 (d) A registered nurse licensed under the provisions of KRS Chapter 314 engaged
20 in providing mental health services;
- 21 (e) A licensed clinical social worker licensed under the provisions of KRS
22 335.100, or a certified social worker licensed under the provisions of KRS
23 335.080 engaged in providing mental health services;
- 24 (f) A marriage and family therapist licensed under the provisions of KRS
25 335.300 to 335.399 engaged in providing mental health services;
- 26 (g) A professional counselor credentialed under the provisions of KRS Chapter
27 335.500 to 335.599 engaged in providing mental health services;

1 (h) An art therapist certified under KRS 309.130 engaged in providing mental
2 health services; or

3 (i) A pastoral counselor licensed under the provisions of KRS 335.600 to
4 335.699 engaged in providing mental health services; and

5 (8) "Mentally ill child" means that considering the child's age and development, the
6 child has a substantially impaired capacity to use self-control, judgment or
7 discretion in the conduct of the child's affairs and social relations, the child's
8 behavior is maladaptive or the child exhibits recognized emotional symptoms which
9 can be related to physiological, psychological or social factors.

10 ➔Section 20. KRS 645.210 is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) After a notice of contest has been received, the hospital may continue the
12 hospitalization on an involuntary basis until a hearing has been held and the court
13 orders otherwise. In no case may the child be held more than fifteen (15) days
14 beyond the filing of the notice of contest, unless a certification hearing has been
15 held within seven (7) days of the filing of the notice of contest.

16 (2) A hearing to determine the necessity for continued hospitalization shall be held
17 within seven (7) days of the court's receipt of the notice of the contest. If the court
18 concludes that the child does not meet the criteria set out in KRS 645.090, the court
19 may order the child discharged or may enter an emergency custody order for
20 purposes of proceeding under other provisions of KRS Chapter 600 to 645 to secure
21 proper care for the child. The cabinet may place the child in a ~~clinical~~ treatment
22 facility, mental health group home, or mental health care program.

23 ➔Section 21. The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet shall construct a high acuity
24 mental health facility to provide residential treatment for children in the custody of the
25 Department of Juvenile Justice. The facility shall provide beds for a minimum of 16
26 children and shall be designed in a manner that shall allow for additions to the facility to
27 increase bed capacity as needed. The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet shall work with

1 the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to ensure compliance with all health facility
2 requirements, both federal and state. The facility shall be completed by February 1, 2026.
3 The provisions of this section, and the provisions of subsection (1)(b)5. of Section 2 of
4 this Act, are subject to funding in the executive branch budget.

5 ➔Section 22. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall provide or enter
6 into contracts or a Memorandum of Understanding with a public teaching university in
7 this state to provide clinical services to the high acuity health facility operated by the
8 Justice and Public Safety Cabinet through the Department of Juvenile Justice.

9 ➔Section 23. The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet shall continue to implement
10 the plan to transition back to the regional model of juvenile detention facilities while
11 continuing to safely segregate males and females and violent and nonviolent offenders.

12 ➔Section 24. The Finance and Administration Cabinet shall report to the
13 Legislative Research Commission no later than August 1, 2024, for referral to the Interim
14 Joint Committee on Judiciary and the Interim Joint Committee on Families and Children
15 the status of the transfer of property deed of the Jefferson County Youth Detention Center
16 to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. If the transfer of the property has not been completed
17 by the required reporting date, the report shall contain the expected date of the transfer.