



**CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY  
PREVENTION COALITION**

[www.act4jj.org](http://www.act4jj.org)

**Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A) Fact Sheet Series**

**State Advisory Group Membership**

**BACKGROUND:** The week of December 10, 2018, Congress passed [H.R. 6964](#), the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 (the Act) with overwhelming bipartisan support. The President signed the bill into law on December 21, 2018, amending the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A) after years of collaborative efforts among juvenile justice organizations and advocates across the United States.

Below, please find a summary of State Advisory Group (SAG) membership required under the bill<sup>1</sup>:

**Required SAG Members:**

- At least 1 locally elected official representing general purpose local government;
- Representatives of law enforcement and juvenile justice agencies, including juvenile and family court judges, prosecutors, counsel for children and youth, and probation workers;
- Representatives of public agencies concerned with delinquency prevention or treatment, such as welfare, social services, child and adolescent mental health, education, child and adolescent substance abuse, special education, services for youth with disabilities recreation, and youth services;
- Representatives of private nonprofit organizations, including persons with a special focus on preserving and strengthening families, parent groups and parent self-help groups, youth development, delinquency prevention and treatment, neglected or dependent children, the quality of juvenile justice, education, and social services for children;
- Volunteers who work with delinquent youth or youth at risk of delinquency;

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<sup>1</sup> The amendments made to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act by this law will not apply until the beginning of Fiscal Year 2020.

- Representatives of programs that are alternatives to incarceration, including programs providing organized recreation activities;
- Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to school violence and vandalism and alternatives to suspension and expulsion;
- **NEW REQUIRED MEMBER:** Persons, licensed or certified by the applicable State, with expertise and competence in preventing and addressing mental health and substance abuse needs in delinquent youth and youth at risk of delinquency;
- **NEW REQUIRED MEMBER:** Representatives of victim or witness advocacy groups, including at least one individual with expertise in addressing the challenges of sexual abuse and exploitation and trauma, particularly the needs of youth who experience disproportionate levels of sexual abuse, exploitation, and trauma before entering the juvenile justice system; and
- **NEW REQUIRED MEMBER:** For a State in which one or more Indian Tribes are located, an Indian tribal representative (if such representative is available) or other individual with significant expertise in tribal law enforcement and juvenile justice in Indian tribal communities.

*Additional Requirements:* Of the SAG's members, a majority, including the chair, cannot be fulltime government employees.

Additionally, at least one fifth of all members must be youth. Youth members can now be appointed up to age 28 as compared to 24 in the previous Act.

At least 3 members must be previously or currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system. If this is not feasible and in appropriate circumstances, these positions may be filled by individuals who are the parent or guardian of someone who has been or is currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.

**OTHER RESOURCES:** For a redline of the statute related State Advisory Group membership, click [here](#).

*This fact sheet was prepared by:*



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