

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

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LLS NO. R14-0216 Richard Sweetman x 4333

INTERIM RESOLUTION

Juvenile Defense Attorney Interim Committee

SHORT TITLE: "Request Judicial Action On Juvenile Defense"

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

101 CONCERNING REQUESTING THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COLORADO
102 SUPREME COURT TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS CONCERNING
103 ADJUDICATION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PETITIONS.

1 WHEREAS, The juvenile defense attorney interim committee was
2 created pursuant to House Joint Resolution 13-1019, which resolution
3 was adopted during the first regular session of the Sixty-ninth General
4 Assembly; and

5 WHEREAS, The juvenile defense attorney interim committee met
6 during the 2013 interim to study the role of legal defense counsel in the
7 juvenile justice system; and

8 WHEREAS, The juvenile defense attorney interim committee has
9 recommended legislation to be introduced during the second regular
10 session of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly, which legislation addresses
11 certain inadequacies in Colorado law relating to the representation of
12 juvenile offenders; and

1 WHEREAS, Actions by the judicial branch are necessary to
2 address problems identified by the juvenile defense attorney interim
3 committee and improve the juvenile justice system; now, therefore,

4 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly*
5 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

6 (1) That the General Assembly requests that the Chief Justice of
7 the Colorado Supreme Court:

8 (a) Issue a directive to the judges of the state court system to
9 assign juvenile delinquency petitions, to the extent practicable, to a single
10 courtroom within each judicial district and to allow judges with juvenile
11 dockets to remain in that rotation so they may develop expertise in the
12 handling of juvenile cases; and

13 (b) Establish a committee of qualified persons to review the
14 Colorado Rules of Juvenile Procedure and make recommendations
15 concerning any amendments to the Rules that may be necessary to
16 improve the juvenile justice system.

17 *Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of this Joint Resolution be
18 sent to Chief Justice Michael Bender, Colorado Supreme Court.