

CHAPTER 1  
SB 1-FN-A - FINAL VERSION

01/19/2023 0055s  
01/26/2023 0124s  
14Feb2023... 0465h

2023 SESSION

23-0931  
04/10

SENATE BILL

***1-FN-A***

AN ACT

relative to the closing of the Sununu youth services center, making appropriations thereof, and establishing a commission to study community impacts of the secured youth development center.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Ward, Dist 8

COMMITTEE:

Judiciary

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the closure of the Sununu youth services center, sets out parameters for the contract for a replacement facility, and makes appropriations thereof. The bill also establishes a commission to study the impacts of the secured youth development center on surrounding communities.

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Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three*

AN ACT                   relative to the closing of the Sununu youth services center, making appropriations thereof, and establishing a commission to study community impacts of the secured youth development center.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

- 1           1:1 Repeal. 2021, 91:329, relative to the closure of the Sununu Youth Services Center, is repealed.
- 2           1:2 Appropriation; Continuation of Operations of the Sununu Youth Services Center. The sum of
- 3 \$1,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 is hereby appropriated to the department of health
- 4 and human services for the purpose of continuing operations at the Sununu youth services center through
- 5 June 30, 2023. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the
- 6 treasury not otherwise appropriated.
- 7           1:3 Appropriation; Replacement Facility for the Sununu Youth Services Center. An amount not to
- 8 exceed \$400,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 is hereby appropriated to the department of
- 9 health and human services for the purpose of site evaluation for a replacement facility for the Sununu
- 10 Youth Services Center. When assessing potential locations, the department shall consider two
- 11 possibilities: a facility with a capacity of 6 to 12 beds, and a facility with a capacity of 12-18 beds. The
- 12 department shall present its recommended site for the facility to the commission established in RSA 169-
- 13 B:48 no later than September 30, 2023. The appropriation contained in this section shall not lapse until
- 14 June 30, 2025. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the
- 15 treasury not otherwise appropriated.
- 16           1:4 Department of Health and Human Services; Sununu Youth Services Center; Construction and
- 17 Operation of a Replacement Secure Facility. The department of health and human services, in
- 18 collaboration with the department of administrative services, shall issue a request to procure a qualified
- 19 architect on or before March 1, 2023, and shall collaborate to issue a request for proposals for a
- 20 contractor to build the resulting construction project. The SYSC shall immediately be closed for detention
- 21 or admission of any child when a replacement facility is sufficiently completed that children can be legally
- 22 and safely housed there.
- 23           1:5 New Subdivision; Commission to Study Community Impacts of the Secured Youth Development
- 24 Center. Amend RSA 169-B by inserting after section 47 the following new subdivision:
- 25                   Commission to Study Community Impacts of the Secured Youth Development Center
- 26           169-B:48 Commission to Study Community Impacts of the Secured Youth Development Center.
- 27           I. There is established a commission to study the impacts of the secured youth development
- 28 center on surrounding communities. The commission shall consider and, as needed, make
- 29 recommendations on site selection, public safety, fire safety, and other relevant factors. Notwithstanding
- 30 RSA 14:49, the commission shall consist of the following members:

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1 (a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of  
2 representatives.

3 (b) Three senate members, appointed by the senate president.

4 (c) The commissioner of the department of health and human services or designee.

5 (d) The commissioner of the department of safety or designee.

6 (e) The child advocate or their designee.

7 (f) A representative from the New Hampshire Sheriff's Association, appointed by that  
8 organization.

9 (g) One or more representatives from local law enforcement agencies, appointed by the  
10 speaker of the house of representatives.

11 (h) One or more representatives from municipal governing bodies, appointed by the senate  
12 president.

13 II. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when  
14 attending to the duties of the commission. The commission's study shall include procedures and  
15 practices of the secured youth development facility meant to ensure the safety of the youths held at the  
16 facility, facility staff, the people of the municipality where the facility is located, and neighboring  
17 municipalities.

18 III. The commission may solicit input from any person or entity the commission deems relevant to  
19 its study.

20 IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The  
21 first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section and be  
22 called by the first-named senate member. A majority of members named to the commission shall  
23 constitute a quorum.

24 V. The commission shall submit a preliminary report including its findings, including its  
25 recommended site for the secured youth development center, and any recommendations for proposed  
26 legislation on or before November 1, 2023 and a final report on or before November 1, 2024 to the  
27 speaker of the house of representatives; the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the  
28 governor, and the state library.

29 1:6 Repeal. RSA 169-B:48, relative to a commission to study community impacts of the secured  
30 youth development center, is repealed.

31 1:7 Effective Date.

32 I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect February 28, 2023.

33 II. Section 6 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2024.

34 III. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: February 14, 2023

Effective Date:

I. Section 1 effective February 28, 2023

II. Section 6 effective November 1, 2024

III. Remainder effective February 14, 2023

