

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 1: Public Defense Services Commission HB 5030 (2021) Reorganization

To: Emergency Board Full Committee
From: General Government Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Smith

The General Government Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report on the reorganization of the Public Defense Services Commission, as directed by the Legislature in 2021.

PDSC's report represents a major improvement over prior agency reporting, with the agency making strides to comply with the direction of the Emergency Board and the budget note; however, the agency still lacks a comprehensive planning document.

The report highlights instability of agency governance and leadership; policies and procedures that need to be updated or created; continued substantive changes to provider contracts; among other issues. For the first time, the report includes an initial draft planning document that outlines categories of initiatives, including a five-year plan for the agency. However, significant work remains to develop a fully scoped and transparent planning and reporting process aimed at identifying and resolving the systemic issues facing the agency.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.