

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Corrections Parenting Inside Out

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Stark

On March 10th, the Public Safety Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of Corrections to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the amount of \$750,000 for extending the agency's Parenting Inside Out program.

The Parenting Inside Out program is a therapeutic, enhanced-visiting program designed to increase positive family engagement both before and after release from prison. Designed by the non-profit Pathfinders Network, the program has been piloted at several DOC institutions and has shown promise in strengthening connections between incarcerated adults and their children. Program enhancements may include providing travel vouchers for children and their caregivers; providing no-cost technology for communications between adults in custody and their children; creating an engagement workshop for children's caregivers; and providing training for DOC staff.

Grant awards will be announced by October 2021 for a three-year period of performance. There are no match requirements. If successful, the agency may return to the Legislature or Emergency Board to request additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.