

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 4: Public Defense Services Commission Unrepresented Defendant/Persons Crisis

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Sollman

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on Public Defense Services Commission Unrepresented Defendant/Persons Crisis.

PDSC was directed to promulgate and disseminate guidance for the judicial district coordinated public safety unrepresented defendant/persons crisis plans no later than August 15, 2023. The guidance was reviewed and approved by the Commission on July 20th and then transmitted to the Judicial Department for dissemination to judicial districts on July 21st. The framework of the crisis plans appears strongly correlated with PDSC's guidance.

PDSC was also directed to develop a training plan for public defense providers specific to the unrepresented defendant/persons crisis. A plan was developed but has not yet been adopted by the Commission. Opportunities exist for the plan to be updated and then disseminated to public defense provider associations and organizations.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.