

**What this Bill Does:**

HB increases the minimum age of detention from 10 to 13 to make it consistent with the minimum age to sentence youth to the Department of Juvenile Justice – and adds a **delayed effective date** of July 1, 2019 to provide youth outreach providers and communities time to plan for alternative services and placements.

**Setting Consistent Minimum Age for Confinement:**

The minimum age to detain a child before trial is currently 10 – but the minimum age to imprison a child after trial is 13. This bill resolves this discrepancy by raising the minimum age of pre-trial detention to 13.

**NUMBERS ARE LOW & decreasing annually:**

According to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, there were **127 children ages 10 thru 12 held in detention centers statewide in 2016**, (down from 436 in 2008).

NOT an issue for most Counties:

**Nearly two-thirds of Illinois counties do NOT detain elementary school age children.**

Only 13 counties in 2016 held 5 or more young children in detention – and only 4 counties held more than 9 children age 10/11 or 12 in 2016:

Cook	10
Peoria	19
Sangamon	20
Winn.	21

\*\*\*\*\*

IN 2017 - **Cook County did not hold any children age 10 or 11 in detention in 2017**, and only 9 children age 12 in detention in 2017.

**ILLINOIS HAS ALTERNATIVES for this young population**

– Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services (CCBYS) is a network of statewide providers charged with 24/7 emergency services to youth at risk of involvement with either child welfare or juvenile justice system.

**CCBYS alternatives include:**

- Placement (shelter/foster care/etc)
- Assessment (YASI, mental health, substance abuse, trauma,etc)
- Crisis stabilization plan

**CONSISTENT w. NAT’L STANDARDS – Annie E.**

**Casey’s Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)** standards prohibit juvenile detention facilities from holding youth under the age of 13.

**American Pediatrics Assoc. finds Confinement as a Child has lifelong adverse health**

**consequences**

A new study by the American Pediatrics Association (APA), *How Does Incarcerating Young People Affect their Adult Health Outcomes*, concludes that youth who are incarcerated have poor health outcomes as adults including adult depressive symptoms from incarceration for less than a month.

**More Harm Than Good:**

Locked detention facilities are intended to be used only for those youth who pose a serious threat to the community or a risk of flight. **The lasting negative impact of detention is especially harmful to very young children.**