On September 18, 2017 the Utah Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJO) convened for the fifth time in Salt Lake City. The meeting was led by Representative Lowry Snow, chair of the JJO. The purpose of the meeting was to: provide Committee Working Group updates; discuss the HB 239 annual report; present the HB 239 performance measures developed by the Data Working Group; update the JJO on Juvenile Justice Service’s progress on developing a detention risk assessment tool; provide updates from JJO member’s presentations to education and law enforcement stakeholders; and discuss potential amendments to HB 239.

Committee Working Group Updates

Education Working Group
The next education working group meeting is being scheduled for October 5, 2017.

Communication Working Group & Roadshow Presentations
Cuong Nguyen, shared with the JJO that the communication working group has been helping coordinate the scheduling and delivery of local roadshows throughout the state that discuss the changes in HB 239 relevant to the education and law enforcement communities. Since August, presentations have been held in:
- West Jordan City, August 23, 2017
- Ogden City, August 30, 2017
- Logan City, August 31, 2017
- Salt Lake City, August 31, 2017
- Provo City, September 6, 2017

Additional presentations in various locations are scheduled for the following:
- Cedar City, September 19, 2017
- St. George, September 20, 2017
- St. George, September 25, 2017
- Vernal, September 26, 2017

- Blanding, September 27, 2017
- Richfield, September 28, 2017
- Ogden City (Northern Utah Gang Conf.) October 5, 2017
- Provo City (Utah School Counselor Association Conf.), October 13, 2017

Members suggested two additional communications materials be developed: a memo for School Resource Officers/Law Enforcement about the ways in which their duties and responsibilities are and are not impacted by HB 239. And, a document describing the process once a juvenile referral is made to court to help stakeholders and community members better understand the court process, including the nonjudicial process.

The next communication working group will be scheduled in October 2017.

Nonjudicial Adjustment Sliding Fee Scale Ad-Hoc Committee
Dawn Marie Rubio informed the JJO that she will be emailing committee members to schedule the first meeting of the ad-hoc committee for late October.

System Mapping Working Group
Cuong Nguyen, CCJJ, informed the JJO the System Mapping Working Group met for the first time on August 31. The group discussed the governor’s Success Initiative and what an effective juvenile justice system should look like. The working group will meet again in October 2017.

House Bill 239 Annual Report
Ron Gordon, CCJJ, requested input from JJO members about what should be included in the first HB 239 annual report, which is due during the
November interim legislative session. JJOC members proposed focusing on what the Committee has done, including:

- Accomplishments
- Materials that have been developed
- Education and law enforcement presentations
- JJOC working groups
- List of HB 239 performance measures

House Bill 239 Performance Measures
Ben Peterson, CCJJ, presented the JJOC with a draft list of performance measures that were developed by the Data Working Group. The list included measures from JJS and Division of Child and Family Services. CCJJ and the Crime and Justice Institute, technical assistance provider, will continue to work with the Administrative Office of the Courts to finish their draft performance measures. The data working group is continuing to work with the Utah State Board of Education (USBE), Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, and the Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee to develop additional performance measures. It was suggested that the data working group consider examining high school graduation rates and recidivism for youth who are warned and released by law enforcement.

Division of Juvenile Justice Services’ Detention Risk Assessment Tool

Susan Burke (JJS), Ben Peterson (CCJJ), and Nathanael Adams (AOC), informed the JJOC that JJS’ Detention Risk Assessment Tool working group is in the early stages of developing a homegrown tool. The working group is in the process of identifying the best predictors of recidivism and failure to appear. Under HB 239, the effective date for the tool is July 2018.

HB 239 Additional Amendments
Representative Snow informed the JJOC that he is working with his staff to draft minor, clarifying changes to help with the implementation of HB 239. He will share with the JJOC once the clarifications are drafted. Additionally, Angie Oaks Stalling from USBE shared with committee members that USBE has been strategizing with Representative Snow to make changes about how Enhancements for At-Risk Students (EARS) money can be used. The EARS fund is approximately $25m that can currently be used fairly broadly by local schools. USBE and Representative Snow want to make an amendment about the use of EARS funds to allow schools to use the funds specifically for resources related to changes in HB239, including for programs and services to address truancy.

Next Steps
The next JJOC meeting will take place on October 16, 2017 at 1 p.m. at the Utah State Capitol Complex, Copper Room. The Data, Education, System Mapping and Communication Working Groups will continue meeting and provide updates on their activities at the next JJOC meeting.