

2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

26104538D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 1293**

2 Offered January 15, 2026

3 A BILL to direct the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Office of the
4 Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a stakeholder work group to submit a plan and
5 recommended timeline for transferring responsibility for the Department of Juvenile Justice.

6 Patron—Hope

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8 Committee Referral Pending
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10 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

11 1. *That the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Office of the
12 Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall convene a stakeholder work group to create a plan and
13 recommended timeline for transferring responsibility for the Department of Juvenile Justice from the
14 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources. The
15 work group shall be composed of interested parties, including representatives from civil liberty
16 organizations, organizations engaged in the daily work of youth justice and violence prevention, formerly
17 incarcerated persons and their families, and mental health experts. The work group shall submit its plan
18 and recommended timeline for executing the transfer to the Chairs of the House Committee for Courts of
19 Justice, House Committee on Public Safety, Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, and Senate Committee
20 on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2026.*

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