

As many of you know, drastic cuts are being proposed for the Federal 2004 juvenile justice appropriations. Funds from the 2004 appropriation will be used during the 2005 JJYD allocation from October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005.

The largest cuts will impact the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG). Nationally, \$190 million was appropriated for FY2003, the House has proposed \$100 million (40% cut) and the Senate \$0 for FY2004. Attached is a table showing the history of appropriations and how the House and Senate proposals would affect Iowa's share of federal juvenile justice funding. Also attached is a pie chart describing Iowa's use of JABG funds.

Should the Senate's proposal be passed, supervision and treatment services to over 4,100 delinquent youth in Iowa youth will cease. The presence of police and juvenile court resource officers in many Iowa schools will end. Funds for drug testing of youth with substance abuse problems will be gone. Restorative Justice programs will be stopped. We're estimating that as many as 36 jobs - people now working to supervise, mentor and otherwise provide a positive influence to Iowa's delinquent population -- will be lost. These are just some of the impacts of the Senate's proposal to eliminate JABG. The Senate proposal threatens CJJP's ability to continue allocating funds statewide to the decats.

The House proposal, while not eliminating JABG, will reduce its funding to Iowa almost by half and will result in a significant reduction in all the areas described above.

The New Prevention Block Grant is an unknown entity, however, the funds must be distributed to local communities via a competitive grant process.

You are encouraged to contact the Iowa members of Congress and express your thoughts about the proposed cuts to juvenile justice funds. It would be helpful to provide local outcomes when discussing the JABG program.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.