

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 39

## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2595L.011

2       **Whereas**, our system of juvenile justice in Missouri is a critical function of our  
3 state government; and

4       **Whereas**, Missouri's juvenile justice system is under great strain and thus warrants  
5 in-depth legislative study; and

6  
7       **Whereas**, the age of majority in Missouri varies throughout our state laws; and

8  
9       **Whereas**, the allocation of juvenile officers in Missouri between the executive and  
10 judicial branches often presents questions of jurisdictional control which must be resolved; and

11  
12       **Whereas**, the maintenance of juvenile officers within the judicial branch may  
13 impact potential future funds, and Missouri's ability to preserve these funds must be further  
14 evaluated;

15  
16       **Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the members of the House of  
17 Representatives of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
18 concurring therein, that to ensure the children entrusted to the care of our state institutions are  
19 receiving the best possible service and care, the General Assembly must endeavor to study  
20 further the matters detailed herein; and

21  
22       **Be it further resolved** that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and  
23 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate appoint an Interim Committee on Juvenile Justice which

24 is authorized to function during the legislative interim of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly  
25 to study the following:

26

27 (1) The need to make the age for juvenile jurisdiction consistent with the age of majority  
28 in this state and the rest of the states generally; and

29

30 (2) The proper state entity or entities under which juvenile officers should be placed, and  
31 the potential state and federal fiscal issues involved with such a determination; and

32

33 (3) Such other matters as the Interim Committee may deem necessary in order to  
34 determine the proper course of future legislative and budgetary action regarding juvenile justice  
35 in Missouri; and

36

37 **Be it further resolved** that the committee shall prepare a final report,  
38 together with its recommendations for any legislative action deemed necessary for submission  
39 to the General Assembly prior to commencement of the Second Regular Session of the Ninety-  
40 fourth General Assembly; and

41

42 **Be it further resolved** that the committee may solicit input and information  
43 necessary to fulfill its obligations, including but not limited to soliciting input and information  
44 from any state department or agency the committee deems relevant, the courts, personnel within  
45 the juvenile justice system, law enforcement, political subdivisions of this state, and the general  
46 public; and

47

48 **Be it further resolved** that the staffs of House Research, the Joint  
49 Committee on Legislative Research, and Senate Research shall provide such legal, research,  
50 clerical, technical, and bill drafting services as the committee may require in the performance of  
51 its duties; and

52

53 **Be it further resolved** that the actual and necessary expenses of the  
54 committee, its members, and any staff assigned to the committee incurred by the committee shall  
55 be paid by the Joint Contingent Fund.

✓