

AB 2417: Restoring Rights to Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth



BACKGROUND



Did You Know: California enacted a law in **2020** that created a huge change to the state juvenile justice system? SB 823 closes the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and transitions all youth cases to the county level.

Why does it matter? Youth in state lock-ups had protections and rights but these rights are not available on a local/county level. This means they will be **UNPROTECTED**

Here are some of the youth rights...

1

To be free from physical, sexual, emotional or other abuse, or corporal punishment.

2

To receive adequate medical services from qualified care providers.

3

To not be searched for the purpose of harassment or humiliation.

AB 2417

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This bill would **re-enact** the Youth Bill Of Rights in all 58 counties and ensure youth in local lock-ups are aware of these existing protections/rights.

How will they know about their Rights?



AB 2417 requires all 58 counties to post the Bill of Rights in their facilities and make sure youth get copies.

CONTACT



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The Untold History Behind Rights for Children/Youth



BACKGROUND



Did You Know: Animal abuse prevention and protection were established before any such prevention and protection for children?



If you were a pet owner in the U.S. in the late 1860s, your animals had protection against abuse, neglect, and mistreatment whereas children and youth did not have these protections. If a pet owner was found to be neglectful their animals would be removed and a fine would be issued. But children and youth in 1860 were considered property and they were left without rights or protections.

MAKING THE CONNECTION



Did You Know: Currently, there is a Cat and Dog Bill of Rights being advocated for. This proposed bill would give cats and dogs rights to nutritious food, therapeutic health care, and protection against neglect and abuse. At the same time, our youth in local lock-ups are left without similar protections.

America has a history of valuing animal life and its wellbeing over children and youth! Our policies are a reflection of our values! So who comes first, the pet or our

Youth?

