

SB 1038 – Disposition of Juvenile Offenses

This bill amends s. 921.0021, F.S., where current law states that “juvenile dispositions of offenses committed by the offender within 5 years before the primary offense are included in the offender’s prior record when the offense would have been a crime had the offender been an adult rather than a juvenile.” As amended, the language would now state that “juvenile dispositions of offenses committed by the offender are not included in the offender’s prior record.” While the language remains for juvenile dispositions of sexual offenses committed 5 years or more before the primary offense being included in the prior record, this bill would not include other offenses which were within 5 years of the primary offense. This change to definition in statute would likely reduce the scores of certain offenders who had such offenses on their prior record, and potentially reduce how many offenders are sentenced to prison as well as the sentence length of those offenders who receive prison sentences. However, it is not known how many offenders would be impacted by this bill.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Negative Indeterminate

Requested by: Senate