

AN ACT

RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE; EXPANDING THE PURPOSE OF THE
DELINQUENCY ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 32A-2-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
Chapter 77, Section 30) is amended to read:

"32A-2-1. SHORT TITLE.--Chapter 32A, Article 2 NMSA
1978 may be cited as the "Delinquency Act"."

Section 2. Section 32A-2-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
Chapter 77, Section 31, as amended) is amended to read:

"32A-2-2. PURPOSE OF ACT.--The purpose of the
Delinquency Act is:

A. consistent with the protection of the public
interest, to remove from children committing delinquent acts
the adult consequences of criminal behavior, but to still hold
children committing delinquent acts accountable for their
actions to the extent of the child's age, education, mental
and physical condition, background and all other relevant
factors, and to provide a program of supervision, care and
rehabilitation, including rehabilitative restitution by the
child to the victims of the child's delinquent act to the
extent that the child is reasonably able to do so;

B. to provide effective deterrents to acts of
juvenile delinquency, including an emphasis on community-based

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alternatives;

C. to strengthen families and to successfully reintegrate children into homes and communities;

D. to foster and encourage collaboration between government agencies and communities with regard to juvenile justice policies and procedures;

E. to develop juvenile justice policies and procedures that are supported by data;

F. to develop objective risk assessment instruments to be used for admission to juvenile detention centers;

G. to encourage efficient processing of cases;

H. to develop community-based alternatives to detention;

I. to eliminate or reduce disparities based upon race or gender;

J. to improve conditions of confinement in juvenile detention centers; and

K. to achieve reductions in the number of warrants issued, the number of probation violations and the number of youth awaiting placements."
