



Raise the Age

Presented to Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners

May 15, 2018

Raise the Age

- Legislation Overview
- Current and Projected Volume in Mecklenburg
- Implementation Concerns
- Impact on Youth-Serving Resources
- Projected Impacts to the County



Legislation Overview

- Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act passed June 2017
 - Goes into effect December 1, 2019
- Youth age 17 and younger will remain in Juvenile Court except:
 - In cases with prior convictions in District or Superior Court
 - A-G felonies will be mandatory transfers to Superior Court following Grand Jury indictment or finding of probable cause



Current & Projected Volume

- FY17: There were 3,311 complaints filed on 1,496 juveniles with Juvenile Justice in Mecklenburg County
- DPS projected increase post RTA implementation: 1,060 additional distinct juveniles to be served by Juvenile Justice in Mecklenburg County



Implementation Concerns

- Impact on Juvenile Justice processes from detention through court hearings
 - Detention
 - Adequate Space
 - Detention Hearings
 - Court process and resources
 - Obligations of Sheriff Offices
 - Transfer to Superior Court process
 - Reverse Waiver process
 - Law Enforcement resources



Impact on Youth-Serving Resources

Placement of Youth in YFS Custody

- Anticipated increase in the number of youths placed in the custody of DSS as a Dispositional Alternative
- Availability of behavioral health resources for older youth

Defense Counsel

- Sufficient number of defense attorneys with specialization in defending those with violent felony charges



Impacts to the County

- Additional positions for CJS and DSS
- Increased need for space to support additional Juvenile Justice staff
- Detention Costs
- Potential requests to expand the state agency contract if RTA is not adequately funded by the State



Questions & Comments





Raise the Age

Presented to Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners

May 15, 2018