

Columbus, Ohio • Dec 14, 2012 • 41° Partly Cloudy

The Columbus Dispatch






 Dispatch.com

 Web by 

News Sports Opinion Life & Entertainment Services Contacts Subscribe

Today's Paper Podcasts Video Photos Data Obituaries

» Hot Links: Photos: Scared of Santa • Vote on the top stories of 2012 • Vote your favorite photo of 2012 • Gift guides • Holiday cookie recipes

Home » News

AdChoices

Community programs mean fewer juvenile prisoners

By [Jack Torry](#)

The Columbus Dispatch • Thursday December 13, 2012 7:23 AM

Comments: 0    4 



Attorney General Mike DeWine said Ohio judges have come up with innovative programs.

WASHINGTON — Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine said yesterday that a state program he helped devise two decades ago has dramatically reduced the number of young people in state juvenile prisons.

Testifying before a Senate subcommittee, DeWine said state and local officials crafted a system that allows local juvenile court judges to use state dollars to finance programs that allow young offenders to remain in their communities, instead of being funneled into an Ohio Department of Youth Services' facility.

"These judges came up with some amazing programs and (they were) programs that were tailored for that particular child," DeWine, a former member of the U.S. Senate, told the panel.

He said juvenile judges could offer young offenders intensive educational training, including on Saturdays, while keeping them in their communities through intense probation, adding that the judges "did all kinds of innovative things. And it worked very well."

DeWine said the Department of Youth Services population has dropped from 2,600 in 1992 to 551 this October. DeWine said those remaining at Youth Services facilities are the "most problematic kids" who had to be

Advertisement • Place an ad


Get unlimited access to
dispatch.com + E-Edition

NEWS VIDEO » MORE VIDEOS

THE DAILY BRIEFING

Report card bill headed to governor



The

House today gave

final approval of legislation to overhaul Ohio's...

sent to the state for custody.

The hearing held by the Senate subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights dealt with what has been called the "school-to-prison pipeline," in which tens of thousands of young people are sent to jail as opposed to rehabilitation programs. DeWine was one of nine witnesses to testify before the panel, which was chaired by Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.

DeWine said when he was lieutenant governor, Republican Gov. George V. Voinovich placed him in charge of the juvenile-justice system. Describing the system in 1992 as "kind of in disarray," DeWine said Youth Services' facilities were as much as 200 percent overcrowded.

"The economic incentives were all in one way," DeWine said. "If they kept a kid at the local level and tried to deal with him or her, total cost was at the county level. If they sent him to the state, the total cost was to the state. So what do you think we got?"

Instead, DeWine said, state and local officials adopted a new system in which "we had the money follow the child," paying for the costs of having the young person stay in his or her community.

"In essence, the judges said: 'If you give us the money ... we'll handle most of these kids,' " DeWine said.

jtorry@dispatch.com

Buckeye Forum Podcast



The

Dispatch public affairs team talks politics and tackles state and federal government issues in the Buckeye Forum podcast.

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Recorders' bid for fees for online records bites the dust



An

attempt by Ohio's county recorders to charge fees for online access to public...

MOST POPULAR

1. Mall gunman, victims identified
2. 17-year-old boy killed during break-in, police say
3. Wife killed, husband hurt as semi hits car
4. Senate passes gun bill after one change
5. Two Worthington teachers resign

» LATEST HEADLINES

» TODAY'S PAPER TOP STORY RSS FEED



Comments

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post a comment.

Ads by Yahoo!

(3) People Unfriended You

Free Facebook download that shows you who unfriended you! (www.FriendsCheckerapp.com)

Is He Cheating On You?

1) Enter His Email Address 2) See Facebook, Hidden Profiles & More! (Spokeo.com/Find-Cheaters)

Don't Get Ripped Off!

Get A Solar Panel Subsidy. Find Out How - Fast and Easy! (SolarPanelSubsidy.com)

Instant Grammar Checker

Correct Grammar Errors & Enhance Your Writing. Try Now For Free! (www.Grammarly.com)

Advertisement - Place an ad

NEWS BLOGS



THE DAILY BRIEFING

Report card bill headed to governor

The House today gave final approval of legislation to overhaul

Ohio's...



THE DAILY BRIEFING

Animal cruelty bill will stall in Senate

Nitro's Law, a proposal to increase animal cruelty penalties for kennel operators,...

operators,...



THE DAILY BRIEFING

Ohio gets piece of national \$42.9 million Pfizer settlement

Ohio will get \$1.5 million from a national settlement with Pfizer Inc, resolving...



THE DAILY BRIEFING

\$8 to beat Kasich

Redfern seeking cash for 2014

» MORE NEWS BLOGS

COLUMBUS SAVVY SHOPPER

- Find and Like us on Facebook



AdChoices



Advertisement • Place an ad

The Columbus Dispatch

Site Map • About the Dispatch • About Our Ads • Privacy Policy • Ad Choices • Contacts • Store • Work with Us

NEWS

- Business
Crime & Safety
Education
Environment
Government & Politics
at DispatchPolitics.com
Local
Medicine & Health
Obituaries
Religion
Science
US & World
Weather

SPORTS

- Ohio State Sports at BuckeyeXtra.com
Other Colleges
NHL: Blue Jackets at BlueJacketsextra.com
MLS: Crew
MiLB: Clippers
MLB: Reds & Indians
NBA: Cavaliers
NFL: Bengals & Browns
Golf
Sports

OPINION

- Editorials
Letters to the Editor
Nate Beeler
Cartoons
Op-Ed Columnists

LIFE TOPICS

- Contests
Fashion & Style
Food
Home & Garden
Travel
Advice Columns
Joe Blundo

ENTERTAINMENT TOPICS

- Books
Dining
Events
Movies
Music
Theater

CLASSIFIEDS

- ColumbusJobs
ColumbusRealEstate
ColumbusCars
Dispatch
Classifieds

SERVICES

- Customer Service
Reader Rewards
Place an ad
Submissions

READER OPTIONS

- Home Delivery
Archive
Mobile
E-Edition
E-Newsletters
RSS Feeds
Podcasts

DISPATCH MEDIA GROUP

BROWSE AFFILIATED SITES

Select

Commentary

Columns

High School

Sports

© 2012 The Dispatch Printing Company, reproduction prohibited. All Rights Reserved.

