## SB 924

## **Senator James Manning Jr.**

SB 924 Updates the Juvenile Code to Reflect that Wards, Children, and Runaways Cannot Be Unnecessarily Placed in Juvenile Detention Facilities

## **Problem:**

- The Juvenile Code's old language is vague and appears to allow children and wards who have not committed delinquent acts to be placed in detention.
- The Juvenile Code also currently allows runaways to be held in detention facilities. Detention facilities should only be used as acceptable placements for youth or youth offenders.

## **Solution:**

This bill updates multiple statutes throughout the Juvenile Code to explicitly indicate that wards, children, and runaways who need placement and have not committed delinquent acts may only be placed in protective custody such as shelter care.

