



RAISE the AGE | NY

Policy Points – January 2016

What we need in a comprehensive Raise the Age Policy

- Raise the overall age of juvenile jurisdiction to 18, which is consistent with other states.
- Ensure no youth who is 16 or 17 years old is placed in an adult jail or prison.
- Amend the law to ensure parental notification upon the arrest of a 16 or 17 year old and ensure 16 and 17 year olds are interviewed using practices employed for youth, including parental involvement prior to waiving Miranda rights.
- Better address the collateral consequences of court involvement and help youth become successful adults by sealing records and expanding YO status to age 21 and to additional non-violent crimes.
- Increase investments in the front-end diversion services that keep youth in their communities rather than incarceration. These alternatives to detention, placement and incarceration services are less expensive and more effective at reducing recidivism.
- Originate as many cases of 16 and 17 year olds in Family court as possible; create Youth Parts in adult court for remaining cases, and apply the Family Court Act to as many as possible, regardless of which courthouse in which the case is heard.
- Raise the lower age of juvenile delinquency from age 7 to age 12 (except for homicide offenses, which should be raised to 10).