OVERVIEW: Section 16C.1 of S.L. 2017-57 requires the Department of Public Safety, in conjunction with the closing of prisons and youth detention and development centers, to consult with the county or municipality in which the facility is located, elected State and local officials, and State and federal agencies about the possibility of converting the facility to other use, with priority given to converting the facility to other criminal justice use. The Department is also authorized to consult with private for-profit or nonprofit firms.

In addition, this section authorizes the Department to convert closed facilities for purposes of training needs, behavior modification facilities, and transitional housing. The Department is required to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety 60 days prior to such a conversion on the justification for it, operational requirements, and available resources for staffing and operation, including a five-year projection of any additional funding needs.

This section became effective July 1, 2017.