

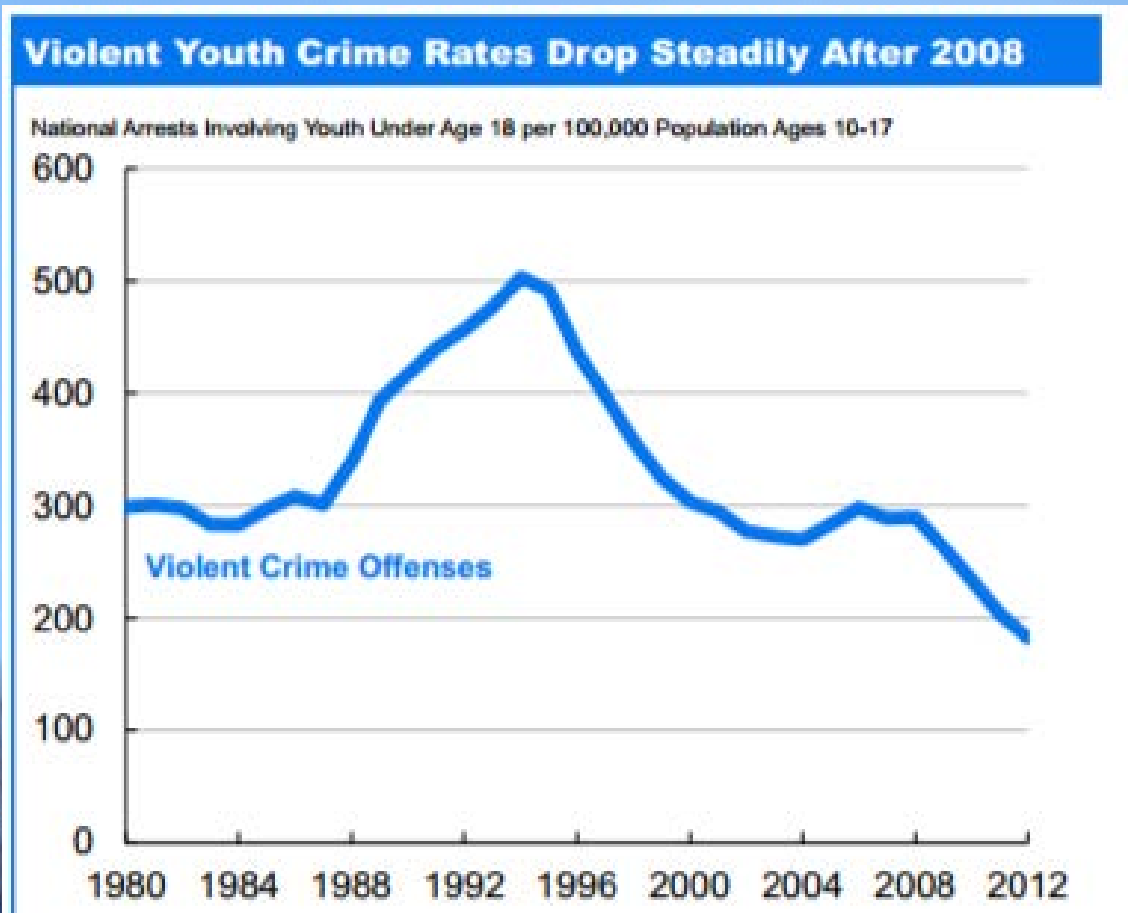
The JJDPAs As Context for Broadening Evidenced Based Prevention Implementation: Translating Science to Practice through Federal Juvenile Justice Policy

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(see: <http://www.npscoalition.org/>)

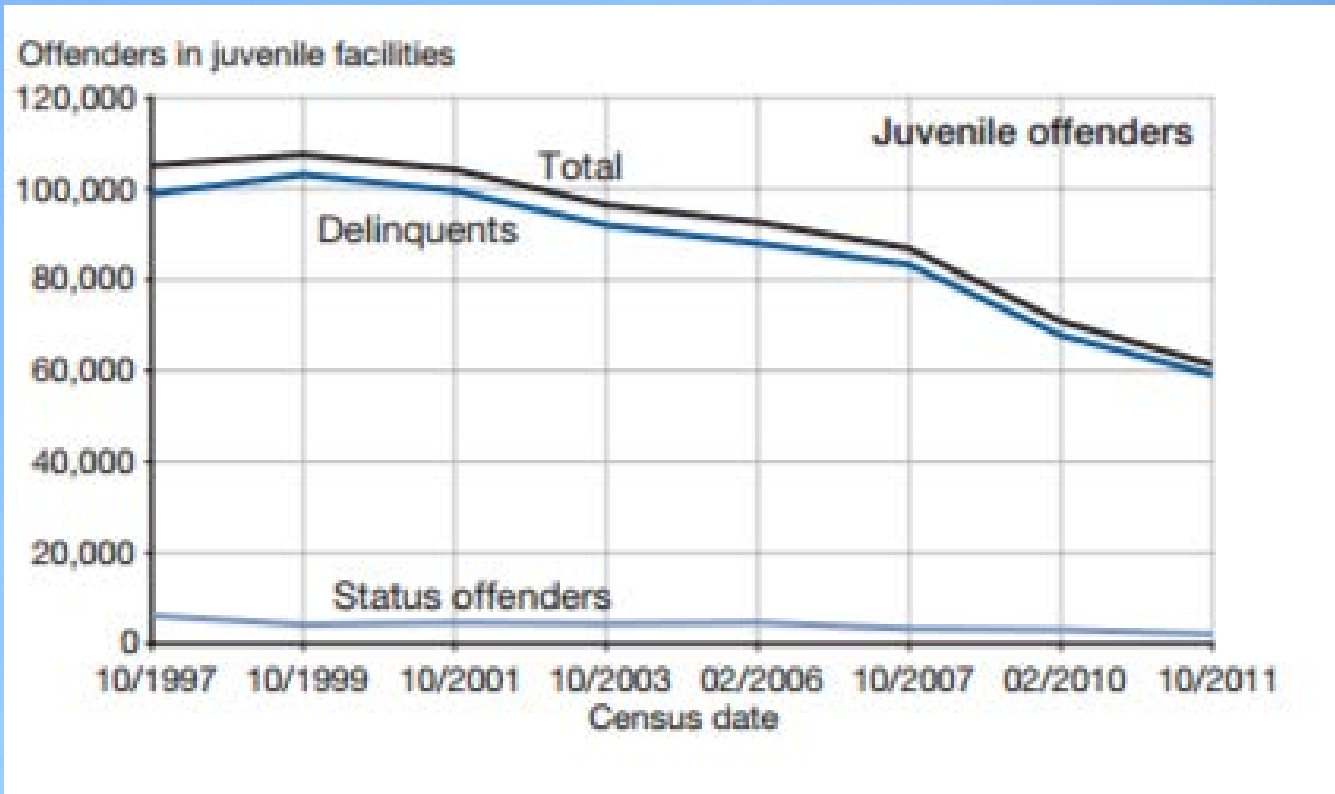
Policy Point #1: JJDPJA is good policy; let's reauthorize and improve (crime is down, the federal/state/local partnerships are in some way credited with these trends)



Murder, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault Included In this Analysis

Butts, J. (2013). *Violent Youth Crime in U.S. Falls to New 32-Year Low*. Research and Evaluation Databits. NY: John Jay College of Criminal Justice

As youth are managed closer to home and in more community-based settings, it's even more important to have evidence-based, effectively implemented intervention and prevention systems in place



- Juvenile Offenders in Residential placements continue decline (down approx. 43% in past 14 years)

Hockenberry, S. (2014) Juveniles In Residential Placement, 2011. Juvenile Offenders and Victims: National Report Series Bulletin. US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, OJJDP. Retrieved from <http://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/246826.pdf>

Besides separating youth from adults in lock-ups, and preventing them from going to jails, the JJDPA has become much more “protective” and advocacy focused since its inception

Policy Point #2: JJDA Helps By Working With States to Focus on Public Safety *While Protecting Youth* -- It Creates Opportunity For Good Investments (Prevention).

Incarceration As a Juvenile Justice Primary Strategy Is "Bad Economics" and Bad Policy (generally)

"In a life-cycle context, incarceration during adolescence may interrupt human and social capital accumulation at a critical moment, leading to reduced future wages and further criminal activity. More generally, **interventions during childhood are thought to have greater impacts compared to interventions for young adults due to propagation effects.**" (bold added; this is the basic argument for effective prevention-focused interventions- RJ edit)

"Juvenile incarceration is also expensive, with expenditures on juvenile corrections totaling \$6 billion annually in the United States, and the average (direct) cost of incarcerating a juvenile equivalent to \$88,000 for a 12-month stay".

"The study finds that for juveniles on the *margin of incarceration*+, **detention leads to both a decrease in high school completion and an increase in adult incarceration.** The authors point out that there are a number of alternatives to juvenile incarceration." (especially, prevention and early intervention programs [bold added]- RJ)

Also, Cohen & Piquero (2007) estimate that lifetime costs for youth crime can range from \$2.5 to \$4.3 **BILLION** for youths beginning their trajectories at age 8 – If incarcerating marginal youth exacerbate their future crime patterns, imagine the increased societal costs (as opposed to responding to them with evidence based strategies).

+ "Margin" refers to youth with validated risk levels and allegations of crimes that may respond more appropriately to community-based alternatives to detention

Aizer, Anna AU - Doyle, Joseph J., Jr. TI - Juvenile Incarceration, Human Capital and Future Crime: Evidence from Randomly-Assigned Judges JF - National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper Series VL - No. 19102 PY - 2013 Y2 - June 2013 DO - 10.3386/w19102 UR - <http://www.nber.org/papers/w19102>

Cohen, M. & Piquero, A. (2009). New evidence on the monetary value of saving high risk youth. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*.(25). 25-49. Retrieved from: http://www.evidencebasedassociates.com/reports/New_Evidence.pdf

Policy Point #3: Prevention Science Principles Can Further Strengthen a Reauthorized JJDPA

- Prevention science emphasizes population (e.g., public health) and subpopulation impacts as well as individual, family and community outcomes
- Preventive interventions focus on the range of development—recognizing that the earlier the intervention, the more likely the potential for improved life long impacts (**this is already included in the JJDPA**). Prevention science has taught us to tailor and apply developmentally appropriate strategies at appropriate stages; intervene early and comprehensively where possible – match risk to intervention in very measured [data driven] ways using scientifically proven approaches implemented with fidelity (**somewhat included in the JJDPA**)
- Prevention science emphasizes interventions that reduce risk **and** foster resilience (protective factors) because the higher exposure to risk (or adverse childhood experiences) with limited ‘protection’ – the greater the likelihood of poor social functioning (school failure, juvenile delinquency/adult crime, substance use-abuse, etc.) (**already included in the JJDPA**) -- Equally important to focus on BOTH risk and protection
- Prevention science recommends that interventions come *at the earliest possible point in the trajectory of concern where risks manifest and become potentially additive, or when protective factors erode or are missing in potentially harmful ways*. Well implemented prevention efforts could dramatically reduce issues of disproportionate minority contact, over-incarceration, and expenditures on deep end services (**should be included in the JJDPA**)

Policy Point #4: More States Would Have Prevention Frameworks Incorporated into their SAGs if the JJDPA and Federal Resources More Significantly Helped to Address

- Resource challenges (federal, state, local)
- Knowledge and experience/expertise (federal, state, local)
- Infrastructure challenges at federal and state levels (data systems, professional training and competency maintenance capacities, evaluation tools, SAG structure, etc.)
- Strategies being unclear as to how to actually make it happen (language in the Act is aspirational and encouraging, no existing prevention, standards, guidelines or metrics for what “developmentally appropriate”, “prevention-focused” systems should look like)
- Perceived imbalance of focus – states perceive a heavier emphasis on compliance with the 4 core protections, and less of a focus on capacity building toward effective prevention solutions (not saying OJJDP fosters this; it is a reported perception). Financial penalties tend to focus on core protections and SAG general administrative elements

Policy and/or Strategy Recommendations - 1

- Invest in building prevention science expertise and technology transfer as a core function within OJJDP (e.g., provide the needed personnel and resources to do so)
- In a reauthorized JJDPA strengthen the expectation to require effective prevention science strategies and principles in states' 3-year plans and updates (with the caveat being that OJJDP is able to provide the training/t.a. to help get them there)
- Transform OJJDP's state relations and support operations to include a balanced set of capacities between compliance monitoring, and capacity building and maintenance for the states so that they can implement and scale up more evidence-based programs – Connect OJJDP to federal and other partners to strategically grow and sustain their prevention science expertise* [Move to an additional emphasis on building prevention capacity/competencies, collaborative partnerships, data systems, implementation capability/expertise. Foster strategic alliances to make it so]

*National Academy of Sciences. (August, 2014). *Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform: The Federal Role*. Retrieved from: http://www.nap.edu/download.php?record_id=18753

Policy and/or Strategy Recommendations - 2

- Create the “enabling context”^{***} (sufficient federal appropriations, improved OJJDP prevention infrastructure, inter-agency tools and data sharing between OJJDP and other branches of federal and state governments, a “climate” amenable to prevention strategies and work)
- Expand or change the “DNA” of State Advisory Groups to incorporate prevention science expertise (not just knowledge of, but experience with implementation and contexts); incentivize model local prevention partnerships through SAG grants or other programs^{***}
- Create incentives and flexible federal accounting systems that allow states to reinvest dollars as savings occur, or if programs are not successful and require different strategies; this includes changing reporting metrics to account for these spending outcomes
- Establish overall metrics to evaluate system reforms (developmentally appropriate; prevention and EBP diffusion). Monitor federal and shared state costs; reinvest savings; know what is being spent and whether or not it is cost beneficial and effective.

^{**}Aldridge, W., Blasé, K., Van Dyke, M., Fixsen, D., Metz, A. (2014). *Implementing Evidence-Based Prevention Programs. Four Things PolicyMakers Need to Know With Related Policy Recommendations*. Retrieved from:

http://media.wix.com/ugd/773dc1_a1f464e5ade24afba3db638207e60f5e.pdf

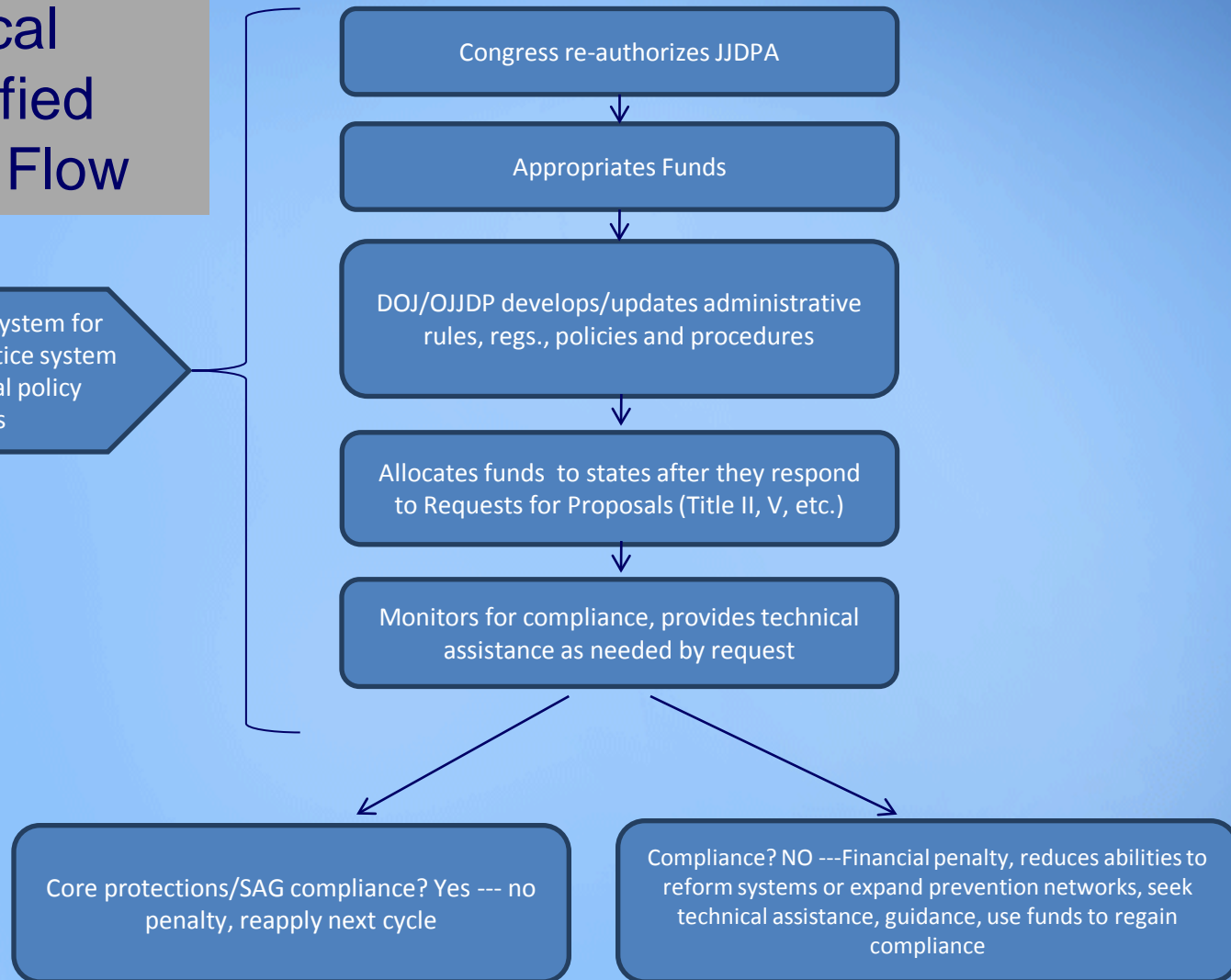
^{***} Uninsky, P. (2014) . *A Proven Multisystemic Model of Local Governance for Implementing and Sustaining a Broad Spectrum of Evidence Based Programs. Policy and Practice Insights from the Partnership for Results*. Retrieved from:

http://media.wix.com/ugd/773dc1_b57691282a314bed8636617001c1fba0.pdf

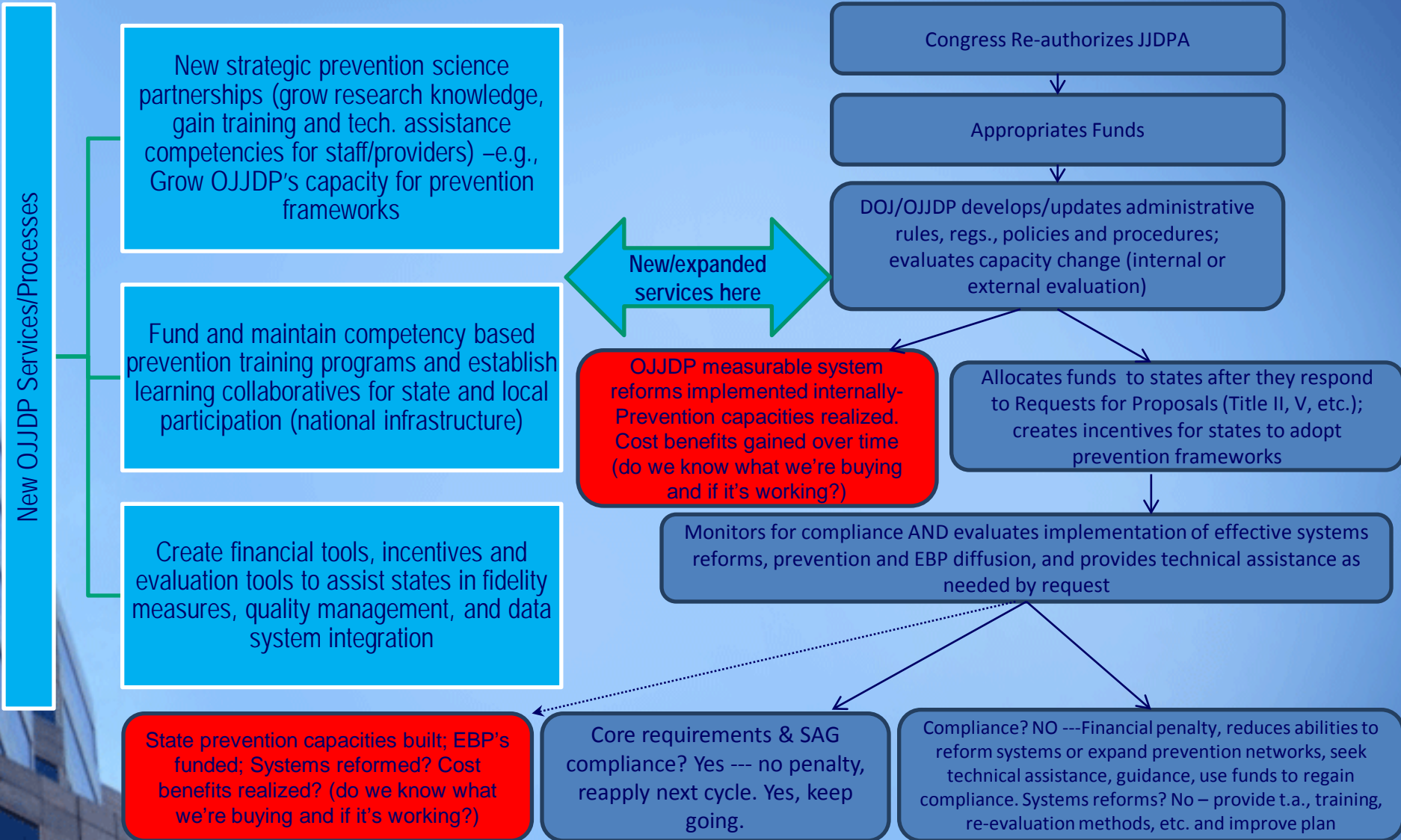
Analogy: Borrowing from Disruptive Innovation Literature (Business Environments)

Typical Simplified OJJDP Flow

Linear and reactive system for reforming juvenile justice system and meeting federal policy expectations



Disruptive Innovation Theory Analogy: OJJDP with Prevention Capacity



Bottom Line? New JJ systems reforms and prevention/evidence based programs are developed and implemented in more local, customer-driven ways; Cost savings are realized and reinvested in more effective ways. New “products” and services are delivered in the states with better outcomes and cost benefits.

Thank You!

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