§ 49-4A-2. Board of Juvenile Justice created; appointments; terms; vacancies; chairperson; per diem and expenses; duties

(a) (1) There is created a Board of Juvenile Justice which shall establish the general policy to be followed by the Department of Juvenile Justice created in this chapter. The Board of Juvenile Justice shall be the successor entity to the Board of Children and Youth Services and the change is intended to be one of name only. The board shall consist of 15 members, with at least one but not more than two from each congressional district in the state, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Governor shall make such appointments with a view toward achieving minority representation, representation of women, and equitable geographic representation on the board.

(2) The Governor shall designate the initial terms of the members of the board as follows: three members shall be appointed for one year; three members shall be appointed for two years; three members shall be appointed for three years; three members shall be appointed for four years; and three members shall be appointed for five years. Thereafter, all succeeding appointments shall be for five-year terms from the expiration of the previous term.

(3) Vacancies in office shall be filled by appointment by the Governor in the same manner as the appointment to the position on the board which becomes vacant, and the appointment shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation at the next session of the General Assembly. An appointment to fill a vacancy, other than by expiration of a term of office, shall be for the balance of the unexpired term.

(4) There shall be a chairperson of the board, elected by and from the membership of the board, who shall be the presiding officer of the board.

(5) The members of the board shall receive per diem and expenses as shall be set and approved by the Office of Planning and Budget and in conformance with rates and allowances set for members of other state boards.

(b) The board shall provide leadership in developing programs to successfully rehabilitate juvenile delinquents and unruly children committed to the state's custody and to provide technical assistance to private and public entities for prevention programs for children at risk.

(c) The board shall perform duties required of it by this chapter and shall, in addition
thereto, be responsible for promulgation of all rules and regulations not in conflict with this chapter that may be necessary and appropriate to the administration of the department, to the accomplishment of the purposes of this chapter, and to the performance of the duties and functions of the department as set forth in this chapter.

(d) The board shall establish rules and regulations for the government, operation, and maintenance of all training schools, facilities, and institutions now or hereafter under the jurisdiction and control of the department, bearing in mind at all times that the purpose for existence and operation of such schools, facilities, and institutions and all activities carried on therein shall be to carry out the rehabilitative program provided for by this chapter and to restore and build up the self-respect and self-reliance of children and youths lodged therein so as to qualify and equip them for good citizenship and honorable employment.