$\ensuremath{\mathbf{By}}$  the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and Senator Rich

586-2060-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the guardian ad litem
3	program; creating s. 39.8298, F.S.; creating a
4	direct-support organization for the Guardian Ad
5	Litem program; providing for the organization
6	and operation of the organization for the
7	Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office; providing
8	for a contract; providing for a board of
9	directors; providing for the use of property,
10	facilities, and personal services of the
11	Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office by the
12	direct-support organization; providing
13	restrictions; providing for the deposit of
14	moneys; providing for an annual audit;
15	providing limits on the direct-support
16	organization; providing an effective date.
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18	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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20	Section 1. Section 39.8298, Florida Statutes, is
21	created to read:
22	39.8298 Guardian Ad Litem direct-support
23	organization
24	(1) AUTHORITYThe Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office
25	created under s. 39.8926 is authorized to create a
26	direct-support organization.
27	(a) The direct-support organization must be a Florida
28	corporation not for profit, incorporated under chapter 617.
29	The direct-support organization is exempt from paying fees
30	under s. 617.0122.
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1	(b) The direct-support organization must be organized
2	and operated to conduct programs and activities; raise funds;
3	request and receive grants, gifts, and bequests of moneys;
4	acquire, receive, hold, invest, and administer, in its own
5	name, securities, funds, objects of value, or other property,
6	real or personal; and make expenditures to or for the direct
7	or indirect benefit of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office.
8	(c) If the executive director of the Statewide
9	Guardian Ad Litem Office determines the direct-support
10	organization is operating in a manner that is inconsistent
11	with the goals and purposes of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem
12	Office or not acting in the best interest of the state, the
13	executive director may terminate the contract and thereafter
14	the organization may not use the name of the Statewide
15	Guardian Ad Litem Office.
16	(2) CONTRACT The direct-support organization shall
17	operate under a written contract with the Statewide Guardian
18	Ad Litem Office. The written contract must, at a minimum,
19	provide for:
20	(a) Approval of the articles of incorporation and
21	bylaws of the direct-support organization by the executive
22	director of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office.
23	(b) Submission of an annual budget for approval by the
24	executive director of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office.
25	(c) The reversion without penalty to the Statewide
26	Guardian Ad Litem Office, or the state if the Statewide
27	Guardian Ad Litem Office ceases to exist, of all moneys and
28	property held in trust by the direct-support organization for
29	the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office if the direct-support
30	organization ceases to exist or if the contract is terminated.

1	(d) The fiscal year of the direct-support
2	organization, which must begin July 1 of each year and end
3	June 30 of the following year.
4	(e) The disclosure of material provisions of the
5	contract and the distinction between the Statewide Guardian Ad
6	Litem Office and the direct-support organization to donors of
7	gifts, contributions, or bequests, as well as on all
8	promotional and fundraising publications.
9	(3) BOARD OF DIRECTORS The executive director of the
10	Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office shall appoint a board of
11	directors for the direct-support organization. The executive
12	director may designate employees of the Statewide Guardian Ad
13	Litem Office to serve on the board of directors. Members of
14	the board shall serve at the pleasure of the executive
15	director.
16	(4) USE OF PROPERTY AND SERVICES The executive
17	director of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office:
18	(a) May authorize the use of facilities and property
19	other than money which are owned by the Statewide Guardian Ad
20	Litem Office to be used by the direct-support organization.
21	(b) May authorize the use of personal services
22	provided by employees of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem
23	Office. For the purposes of this section, the term "personal
24	services" includes full-time personnel and part-time personnel
25	as well as payroll processing.
26	(c) May prescribe the conditions by which the
27	direct-support organization may use property, facilities, or
28	personal services of the office.
29	(d) May not authorize the use of property, facilities,
30	or personal services of the direct-support organization if the
31	organization does not provide equal employment opportunities

1	to all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, gender,
2	age, or national origin.
3	(5) MONEYSMoneys of the direct-support organization
4	may be held in a separate depository account in the name of
5	the direct-support organization and subject to the provisions
6	of the contract with the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office.
7	(6) ANNUAL AUDIT The direct-support organization
8	shall provide for an annual financial audit in accordance with
9	<u>s. 215.981.</u>
10	(7) LIMITS ON DIRECT-SUPPORT ORGANIZATION The
11	direct-support organization may not exercise any power under
12	s. 617.0302(12) or (16). A state employee may not receive
13	compensation from the direct-support organization for service
14	on the board of directors or for services rendered to the
15	direct-support organization.
16	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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1	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
2	<u>Senate Bill 1612</u>
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4 5	The strike all amendment replaces the existing bill with the following changes:
6	- Removes the Definitions subsection and integrates the definitions into the bill.
7	- Empowers the Executive Director of the Statewide Guardian
8	Ad Litem Office (SGALO) to terminate the direct-support organization (DSO) contract if the Executive Director finds that the DSO is acting in a manner inconsistent with the goals of the SGALO.
10	- Reverts money and property from the DSO to the state if
11	the SGALO ceases to exist.
12	- Stipulates that members of the board shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director.
13	- Removes the rule making authority for the Executive Director of the SGALO.
Prohibits the DSO from exercising power under s. 617.0302(12) or (16), F.S., and prohibits a state	617.0302(12) or (16), F.S., and prohibits a state
16	employee from receiving compensation from the DSO.
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