By Senator Ring

32-00036-11 2011104

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to misdemeanor pretrial substance

abuse programs; amending s. 948.16, F.S.; providing that a person who has previously been admitted to a pretrial program may qualify for a misdemeanor pretrial substance abuse program; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 948.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

948.16 Misdemeanor pretrial substance abuse education and treatment intervention program.-

(1)(a) A person who is charged with a misdemeanor for possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia under chapter 893, and who has not previously been convicted of a felony nor been admitted to a pretrial program, is eligible for voluntary admission into a misdemeanor pretrial substance abuse education and treatment intervention program, including a treatment-based drug court program established pursuant to s. 397.334, approved by the chief judge of the circuit, for a period based on the program requirements and the treatment plan for the offender, upon motion of either party or the court's own motion, except, if the state attorney believes the facts and circumstances of the case suggest the defendant is involved in dealing and selling controlled substances, the court shall hold a preadmission hearing. If the state attorney establishes, by a preponderance of the evidence at such hearing, that the

2011104 32-00036-11 defendant was involved in dealing or selling controlled 30 substances, the court shall deny the defendant's admission into 31 the pretrial intervention program. 32 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011. 33