1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to children's mental health; amending 3 s. 394.493, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children 4 and Families and the Agency for Health Care 5 Administration to identify certain children and 6 adolescents who use crisis stabilization services 7 during specified fiscal years; requiring the 8 department and agency to collaboratively meet the 9 behavioral health needs of such children and 10 adolescents and submit a quarterly report to the Legislature; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; including 11 12 crisis response services provided through mobile response teams in the array of services available to 13 14 children and adolescents; requiring the department to contract with managing entities for mobile response 15 16 teams to provide certain services to certain children, 17 adolescents, and young adults; providing requirements for such mobile response teams; providing requirements 18 19 for managing entities when procuring mobile response teams; creating s. 394.4955, F.S.; requiring managing 20 21 entities to develop a plan promoting the development 22 of a coordinated system of care for certain services; 23 providing requirements for the planning process; 24 requiring each managing entity to submit such plan by 25 a specified date; requiring the entities involved in

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the planning process to implement such plan by a specified date; requiring that such plan be reviewed and updated periodically; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; revising the duties of the department relating to priority populations that will benefit from care coordination; requiring that a managing entity's behavioral health care needs assessment include certain information regarding gaps in certain services; requiring a managing entity to promote the use of available crisis intervention services; amending s. 409.175, F.S.; revising requirements relating to preservice training for foster parents; amending s. 409.967, F.S.; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to conduct, or contract for, the testing of provider network databases maintained by Medicaid managed care plans for specified purposes; amending s. 409.988, F.S.; revising the duties of a lead agency relating to individuals providing care for dependent children; amending s. 985.601, F.S.; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to participate in the planning process for promoting a coordinated system of care for children and adolescents; amending s. 1003.02, F.S.; requiring each district school board to participate in the planning process for promoting a coordinated

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system of care; amending s. 1004.44, F.S.; requiring the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute to develop, in consultation with other entities, a model response protocol for schools; amending s. 1006.04, F.S.; requiring the educational multiagency network to participate in the planning process for promoting a coordinated system of care; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the elements of a plan required for school district funding under the mental health assistance allocation; requiring the Department of Children and Families and Agency for Health Care Administration to assess the quality of care provided in crisis stabilization units to certain children and adolescents; requiring the department and agency to review current standards of care for certain settings and make recommendations; requiring the department and agency to jointly submit a report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 394.493, Florida Statutes, to read:

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394.493 Target populations for child and adolescent mental

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health services funded through the department.-

- (4) Beginning with fiscal year 2020-2021 through fiscal year 2021-2022, the department and the Agency for Health Care Administration shall identify children and adolescents who are the highest utilizers of crisis stabilization services. The department and agency shall collaboratively take appropriate action within available resources to meet the behavioral health needs of such children and adolescents more effectively, and shall jointly submit to the Legislature a quarterly report listing the actions taken by both agencies to better serve such children and adolescents.
- Section 2. Paragraph (q) is added to subsection (4) of section 394.495, Florida Statutes, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:
- 394.495 Child and adolescent mental health system of care; programs and services.—
- (4) The array of services may include, but is not limited to:
- (q) Crisis response services provided through mobile response teams.
- (7) (a) The department shall contract with managing entities for mobile response teams throughout the state to provide immediate, onsite behavioral health crisis services to children, adolescents, and young adults ages 18 to 25, inclusive, who:

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101	1. Have an emotional disturbance;
102	2. Are experiencing an acute mental or emotional crisis;
103	3. Are experiencing escalating emotional or behavioral
104	reactions and symptoms that impact their ability to function
105	typically within the family, living situation, or community
106	environment; or
107	4. Are served by the child welfare system and are
108	experiencing or are at high risk of placement instability.
109	(b) A mobile response team shall, at a minimum:
110	1. Respond to new requests for services within 60 minutes
111	after such requests are made.
112	2. Respond to a crisis in the location where the crisis is
113	occurring.
114	3. Provide behavioral health crisis-oriented services that
115	are responsive to the needs of the child, adolescent, or young
116	adult and his or her family.
117	4. Provide evidence-based practices to children,
118	adolescents, young adults, and families to enable them to
119	independently and effectively deescalate and respond to
120	behavioral challenges that they are facing and to reduce the
121	potential for future crises.
122	5. Provide screening, standardized assessments, early
123	identification, and referrals to community services.
124	6. Engage the child, adolescent, or young adult and his or
125	her family as active participants in every phase of the

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126 treatment process whenever possible.

- 7. Develop a care plan for the child, adolescent, or young adult.
- 8. Provide care coordination by facilitating the transition to ongoing services.
- 9. Ensure there is a process in place for informed consent and confidentiality compliance measures.
- 10. Promote information sharing and the use of innovative technology.
- 11. Coordinate with the managing entity within the service location and other key entities providing services and supports to the child, adolescent, or young adult and his or her family, including, but not limited to, the child, adolescent, or young adult's school, the local educational multiagency network for severely emotionally disturbed students under s. 1006.04, the child welfare system, and the juvenile justice system.
- (c) When procuring mobile response teams, the managing entity must, at a minimum:
- 1. Collaborate with local sheriff's offices and public schools in the planning, development, evaluation, and selection processes.
- 2. Require that services be made available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, with onsite response time to the location of the referred crisis within 60 minutes after the request for services is made.

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3. Require the provider to establish response protocols
with local law enforcement agencies, local community-based car
lead agencies as defined in s. 409.986(3), the child welfare
system, and the Department of Juvenile Justice. The response
protocol with a school district shall be consistent with the
model response protocol developed under s. 1004.44.

- 4. Require access to a board-certified or board-eligible psychiatrist or psychiatric nurse practitioner.
- 5. Require mobile response teams to refer children, adolescents, or young adults and their families to an array of crisis response services that address individual and family needs, including screening, standardized assessments, early identification, and community services as necessary to address the immediate crisis event.
- Section 3. Section 394.4955, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- <u>394.4955</u> Coordinated system of care; child and adolescent mental health treatment and support.—
- (1) Pursuant to s. 394.9082(5)(d), each managing entity shall develop a plan that promotes the development and effective implementation of a coordinated system of care which integrates services provided through providers funded by the state's child-serving systems and facilitates access by children and adolescents, as resources permit, to needed mental health treatment and services at any point of entry regardless of the

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time of year, intensity, or complexity of the need, and other systems with which such children and adolescents are involved, as well as treatment and services available through other systems for which they would qualify.

- (2) (a) The managing entity shall lead a planning process that includes, but is not limited to, children and adolescents with behavioral health needs and their families; behavioral health service providers; law enforcement agencies; school districts or superintendents; the multiagency network for students with emotional or behavioral disabilities; the department; and representatives of the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, early learning coalitions, the Agency for Health Care Administration, Medicaid managed medical assistance plans, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and other community partners. An organization receiving state funding must participate in the planning process if requested by the managing entity.
- (b) The managing entity and collaborating organizations shall take into consideration the geographical distribution of the population, needs, and resources, and create separate plans on an individual county or multi-county basis, as needed, to maximize collaboration and communication at the local level.
- (c) To the extent permitted by available resources, the coordinated system of care shall include the array of services listed in s. 394.495.

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(d) Each plan shall integrate with the local plan developed under s. 394.4573.

- (3) By July 1, 2021, the managing entity shall complete the plans developed under this section and submit them to the department. By July 1, 2022, the entities involved in the planning process shall implement the coordinated system of care specified in each plan. The managing entity and collaborating organizations shall review and update the plans, as necessary, at least every 3 years thereafter.
- (4) The managing entity and collaborating organizations shall create integrated service delivery approaches within current resources that facilitate parents and caregivers obtaining services and support by making referrals to specialized treatment providers, if necessary, with follow up to ensure services are received.
- (5) The managing entity and collaborating organizations shall document each coordinated system of care for children and adolescents through written memoranda of understanding or other binding arrangements.
- (6) The managing entity shall identify gaps in the arrays of services for children and adolescents listed in s. 394.495 available under each plan and include relevant information in its annual needs assessment required by s. 394.9082.
- Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) and paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (5) of section 394.9082, Florida

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Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (t) is added to subsection (5) of that section, to read:

- 394.9082 Behavioral health managing entities.-
- (3) DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—The department shall:

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- (c) Define the priority populations that will benefit from receiving care coordination. In defining such populations, the department shall take into account the availability of resources and consider:
- 1. The number and duration of involuntary admissions within a specified time.
- 2. The degree of involvement with the criminal justice system and the risk to public safety posed by the individual.
- 3. Whether the individual has recently resided in or is currently awaiting admission to or discharge from a treatment facility as defined in s. 394.455.
- 4. The degree of utilization of behavioral health services.
- 5. Whether the individual is a parent or caregiver who is involved with the child welfare system.
- 6. Whether the individual is an adolescent, as defined in s. 394.492, who requires assistance in transitioning to services provided in the adult system of care.
 - (5) MANAGING ENTITY DUTIES.—A managing entity shall:
- (b) Conduct a community behavioral health care needs assessment every 3 years in the geographic area served by the

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managing entity which identifies needs by subregion. The process for conducting the needs assessment shall include an opportunity for public participation. The assessment shall include, at a minimum, the information the department needs for its annual report to the Governor and Legislature pursuant to s. 394.4573. The assessment shall also include a list and descriptions of any gaps in the arrays of services for children or adolescents identified pursuant to s. 394.4955 and recommendations for addressing such gaps. The managing entity shall provide the needs assessment to the department.

- (d) Promote the development and effective implementation of a coordinated system of care pursuant to $\underline{ss.\ 394.4573}$ and $\underline{394.495}$ $\underline{s.\ 394.4573}$.
- (t) Promote the use of available crisis intervention services by requiring contracted providers to provide contact information for mobile response teams established under s.

 394.495 to parents and caregivers of children, adolescents, and young adults between ages 18 and 25, inclusive, who receive safety-net behavioral health services.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (14) of section 409.175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

 $409.175\,$ Licensure of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies; public records exemption.—

(14)

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(b) As a condition of licensure, foster parents shall
successfully complete preservice training. The preservice
training shall be uniform statewide and shall include, but not
be limited to, such areas as:
1. Orientation regarding agency purpose, objectives,
resources, policies, and services;
2. Role of the foster parent as a treatment team member;
3. Transition of a child into and out of foster care,
including issues of separation, loss, and attachment;
4. Management of difficult child behavior that can be
intensified by placement, by prior abuse or neglect, and by
prior placement disruptions;
5. Prevention of placement disruptions;
6. Care of children at various developmental levels,
including appropriate discipline; and
7. Effects of foster parenting on the family of the foster
parent; and
8. Information about and contact information for the local
mobile response team as a means for addressing a behavioral
health crisis or preventing placement disruption.
Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
409.967, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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as are necessary for the operation of the statewide managed care

The agency shall establish such contract requirements

409.967 Managed care plan accountability.-

program. In addition to any other provisions the agency may deem necessary, the contract must require:

(c) Access.-

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The agency shall establish specific standards for the number, type, and regional distribution of providers in managed care plan networks to ensure access to care for both adults and children. Each plan must maintain a regionwide network of providers in sufficient numbers to meet the access standards for specific medical services for all recipients enrolled in the plan. The exclusive use of mail-order pharmacies may not be sufficient to meet network access standards. Consistent with the standards established by the agency, provider networks may include providers located outside the region. A plan may contract with a new hospital facility before the date the hospital becomes operational if the hospital has commenced construction, will be licensed and operational by January 1, 2013, and a final order has issued in any civil or administrative challenge. Each plan shall establish and maintain an accurate and complete electronic database of contracted providers, including information about licensure or registration, locations and hours of operation, specialty credentials and other certifications, specific performance indicators, and such other information as the agency deems necessary. The database must be available online to both the agency and the public and have the capability to compare the

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availability of providers to network adequacy standards and to accept and display feedback from each provider's patients. Each plan shall submit quarterly reports to the agency identifying the number of enrollees assigned to each primary care provider.

The agency shall conduct, or contract for, systematic and continuous testing of the provider network databases maintained by each plan to confirm accuracy, confirm that behavioral health providers are accepting enrollees, and confirm that enrollees have access to behavioral health services.

- 2. Each managed care plan must publish any prescribed drug formulary or preferred drug list on the plan's website in a manner that is accessible to and searchable by enrollees and providers. The plan must update the list within 24 hours after making a change. Each plan must ensure that the prior authorization process for prescribed drugs is readily accessible to health care providers, including posting appropriate contact information on its website and providing timely responses to providers. For Medicaid recipients diagnosed with hemophilia who have been prescribed anti-hemophilic-factor replacement products, the agency shall provide for those products and hemophilia overlay services through the agency's hemophilia disease management program.
- 3. Managed care plans, and their fiscal agents or intermediaries, must accept prior authorization requests for any service electronically.

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4. Managed care plans serving children in the care and		
custody of the Department of Children and Families must maintain		
complete medical, dental, and behavioral health encounter		
information and participate in making such information available		
to the department or the applicable contracted community-based		
care lead agency for use in providing comprehensive and		
coordinated case management. The agency and the department shall		
establish an interagency agreement to provide guidance for the		
format, confidentiality, recipient, scope, and method of		
information to be made available and the deadlines for		
submission of the data. The scope of information available to		
the department shall be the data that managed care plans are		
required to submit to the agency. The agency shall determine the		
plan's compliance with standards for access to medical, dental,		
and behavioral health services; the use of medications; and		
followup on all medically necessary services recommended as a		
result of early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and		
treatment.		
Section 7. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section		
409.988, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:		
409.988 Lead agency duties; general provisions		
(1) DUTIES.—A lead agency:		
(f) Shall ensure that all individuals providing care for		
(f) Shall ensure that all individuals providing care for		

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Appropriate training and meet the minimum employment

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

dependent children receive:

376 standards established by the department.

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2. Contact information for the local mobile response team established under s. 394.495.

Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 985.601, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.601 Administering the juvenile justice continuum.-

The department shall maintain continuing cooperation with the Department of Education, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Economic Opportunity, and the Department of Corrections for the purpose of participating in agreements with respect to dropout prevention and the reduction of suspensions, expulsions, and truancy; increased access to and participation in high school equivalency diploma, vocational, and alternative education programs; and employment training and placement assistance. The cooperative agreements between the departments shall include an interdepartmental plan to cooperate in accomplishing the reduction of inappropriate transfers of children into the adult criminal justice and correctional systems. As part of its continuing cooperation, the department shall participate in the planning process for promoting a coordinated system of care for children and adolescents pursuant to s. 394.4955.

Section 9. Subsection (5) is added to section 1003.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

1003.02 District school board operation and control of

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public K-12 education within the school district.—As provided in part II of chapter 1001, district school boards are constitutionally and statutorily charged with the operation and control of public K-12 education within their school district. The district school boards must establish, organize, and operate their public K-12 schools and educational programs, employees, and facilities. Their responsibilities include staff development, public K-12 school student education including education for exceptional students and students in juvenile justice programs, special programs, adult education programs, and career education programs. Additionally, district school boards must:

(5) Participate in the planning process for promoting a coordinated system of care for children and adolescents pursuant to s. 394.4955.

Section 10. Subsection (4) of section 1004.44, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

1004.44 Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health
Institute.—There is established the Louis de la Parte Florida
Mental Health Institute within the University of South Florida.

(4) By August 1, 2020, the institute shall develop a model response protocol for schools to use mobile response teams established under s. 394.495. In developing the protocol, the institute shall, at a minimum, consult with school districts

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that effectively use such teams, school districts that use such teams less often, local law enforcement agencies, the Department of Children and Families, managing entities as defined in s.

394.9082(2), and mobile response team providers.

Section 11. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 1006.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.04 Educational multiagency services for students with severe emotional disturbance.—

(1)

- (c) The multiagency network shall:
- 1. Support and represent the needs of students in each school district in joint planning with fiscal agents of children's mental health funds, including the expansion of school-based mental health services, transition services, and integrated education and treatment programs.
- 2. Improve coordination of services for children with or at risk of emotional or behavioral disabilities and their families by assisting multi-agency collaborative initiatives to identify critical issues and barriers of mutual concern and develop local response systems that increase home and school connections and family engagement.
- 3. Increase parent and youth involvement and development with local systems of care.
- 4. Facilitate student and family access to effective services and programs for students with and at risk of emotional

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or behavioral disabilities that include necessary educational, residential, and mental health treatment services, enabling these students to learn appropriate behaviors, reduce dependency, and fully participate in all aspects of school and community living.

5. Participate in the planning process for promoting a coordinated system of care for children and adolescents pursuant to s. 394.4955.

Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

(16) MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION.—The mental health assistance allocation is created to provide funding to assist school districts in establishing or expanding school-based mental health care; train educators and other school staff in detecting and responding to mental health issues; and connect children, youth, and families who may experience behavioral health issues with appropriate services. These funds shall be allocated annually in the General Appropriations Act or other law to each eligible school district. Each school district shall

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receive a minimum of \$100,000, with the remaining balance allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment. Charter schools that submit a plan separate from the school district are entitled to a proportionate share of district funding. The allocated funds may not supplant funds that are provided for this purpose from other operating funds and may not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses. School districts are encouraged to maximize third-party health insurance benefits and Medicaid claiming for services, where appropriate.

- (b) The plans required under paragraph (a) must be focused on a multitiered system of supports to deliver evidence-based mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment, and recovery services to students with one or more mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to students at high risk of such diagnoses. The provision of these services must be coordinated with a student's primary mental health care provider and with other mental health providers involved in the student's care. At a minimum, the plans must include the following elements:
- 1. Direct employment of school-based mental health services providers to expand and enhance school-based student services and to reduce the ratio of students to staff in order to better align with nationally recommended ratio models. These

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providers include, but are not limited to, certified school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and other licensed mental health professionals. The plan also must identify strategies to increase the amount of time that school-based student services personnel spend providing direct services to students, which may include the review and revision of district staffing resource allocations based on school or student mental health assistance needs.

- 2. An interagency agreement or memorandum of understanding with the managing entity, as defined in s. 394.9082(2), that facilitates referrals of students to community-based services and coordinates care for students served by school-based and community-based providers. Such agreement or memorandum of understanding must address the sharing of records and information as authorized under s. 1006.07(7)(d) to coordinate care and increase access to appropriate services.
- 3.2. Contracts or interagency agreements with one or more local community behavioral health providers or providers of Community Action Team services to provide a behavioral health staff presence and services at district schools. Services may include, but are not limited to, mental health screenings and assessments, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, psychiatric or psychological services, traumainformed care, mobile crisis services, and behavior modification. These behavioral health services may be provided

on or off the school campus and may be supplemented by telehealth.

- $\underline{4.3.}$ Policies and procedures, including contracts with service providers, which will ensure that:
- a. Parents of students are provided information about behavioral health services available through the students' school or local community-based behavioral health services providers, including, but not limited to, the mobile response team as established in s. 394.495 serving their area. A school may meet this requirement by providing information about and internet addresses for web-based directories or guides of local behavioral health services as long as such directories or guides are easily navigated and understood by individuals unfamiliar with behavioral health delivery systems or services and include specific contact information for local behavioral health providers.
- b. School districts use the services of the mobile response teams to the extent that such services are available.

 Each school district shall establish policies and procedures to carry out the model response protocol developed under s.

 1004.44.
- c. Students who are referred to a school-based or community-based mental health service provider for mental health screening for the identification of mental health concerns and ensure that the assessment of students at risk for mental health

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disorders occurs within 15 days of referral. School-based mental health services must be initiated within 15 days after identification and assessment, and support by community-based mental health service providers for students who are referred for community-based mental health services must be initiated within 30 days after the school or district makes a referral.

- d. Referrals to behavioral health services available through other delivery systems or payors for which a student or individuals living in the household of a student receiving services under this subsection may qualify, if such services appear to be needed or enhancements in those individuals' behavioral health would contribute to the improved well-being of the student.
- 5.4. Strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of at-risk students developing social, emotional, or behavioral health problems, depression, anxiety disorders, suicidal tendencies, or substance use disorders.
- $\underline{6.5.}$ Strategies to improve the early identification of social, emotional, or behavioral problems or substance use disorders, to improve the provision of early intervention services, and to assist students in dealing with trauma and violence.
- Section 13. The Department of Children and Families and the Agency for Health Care Administration shall assess the quality of care provided in crisis stabilization units to

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children and adolescents who are high utilizers of crisis stabilization services. The department and agency shall review current standards of care for such settings applicable to licensure under chapters 394 and 408, Florida Statutes, and designation under s. 394.461, Florida Statutes; compare the standards to other states' standards and relevant national standards; and make recommendations for improvements to such standards. The assessment and recommendations shall address, at a minimum, efforts by each facility to gather and assess information regarding each child or adolescent, to coordinate with other providers treating the child or adolescent, and to create discharge plans that comprehensively and effectively address the needs of the child or adolescent to avoid or reduce his or her future use of crisis stabilization services. The department and agency shall jointly submit a report of their findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 15, 2020.

Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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