

Summary of CS/SB 524 by Senator Sobel
Sexually Violent Predators
3/3/2014

- Creates the “Protecting Our Children from Sexual Predators Act” to facilitate the accurate assessment of sex offenders for civil commitment as sexually violent predators.
- Strengthens the ability of multidisciplinary teams to identify sexually violent predators.
- States that the person evaluated meets the definition of sexually violent predator when two or more members of the five member team find that the person meets the definition, lowering the threshold from past law.
- Revises the timeframes for DCF to evaluate persons getting out of prison and jail to accommodate for the increase in screened individuals by casting a wider net.
- Requires DCF to train team members, provide feedback to team members, and create a process for measuring the performance of team members.
- Limits MDT contracted members to one-year terms, subject to renewal.
- Directs DCF to annually evaluate the contractors based on performance, allowing the department to more quickly replace contractors who are poorly performing.
- Requires public and private colleges and universities to inform students and employees about the FDLE maintained web site and toll-free telephone number that provides information to the public of sex offenders and sexually violent predators.