

Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

CS/CS/SB 1120 — Substance Abuse Services

by Appropriations Committee; Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee; and Senator Harrell

The bill addresses individuals who have experienced substance abuse treatment, as well as recovery residence service providers, who have been disqualified from employment following a failed background screening by requiring the Department of Children and Families to provide exemptions from employment disqualification for certain offenses. The bill condenses several background screening sections of ch. 397, F.S., into a single set of requirements. Additionally, the bill modifies patient-brokering laws to exempt discounts, waivers of payment, or payments not prohibited by the federal anti-kickback statute or regulations. The bill also applies such exemptions to all payment methods used by federal health care programs, and provides that patient-brokering constitutes a first-degree misdemeanor.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 117-0