

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND ELDER AFFAIRS**  
**Senator Garcia, Chair**  
**Senator Book, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021  
**TIME:** 1:30—2:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** *Pat Thomas Committee Room, 412 Knott Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Garcia, Chair; Senator Book, Vice Chair; Senators Albritton, Brodeur, Harrell, Rouson, Torres, and Wright

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TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Presentations by the Department of Children and Families on:		Presented
	-The implementation of Senate Bills 80 and 96 (2021); and		
	-Florida's transition to full implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act.		

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Other Related Meeting Documents

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# Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee

September 21, 2021

Presented by

Taylor Hatch, Deputy Secretary

Stefanie Camfield, Assistant Secretary for Child Welfare

# Department Updates

- Senate Bill 80 Implementation Update
- Senate Bill 96 Implementation Update
- Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)



# Senate Bill 80 Overview

- The bill creates consistency, transparency and works to reduce further trauma for individuals involved in the Child Welfare System. Specifically, the legislation addresses the following components:
  - Face Sheet
  - Multidisciplinary Teams
  - Office of Continuing Care
  - Reinstatement of Parental Rights



# Face Sheet

- The Face Sheet is a newly required document that contains a condensed overview of a child and their case for a more transparent way to get a snapshot of a child's history and to more quickly inform next steps.
- The Department:
  - Developed a template for Face Sheets that includes all elements in statute and has a projected go-live date this month.



# Multidisciplinary Teams

- Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) staffings bring together a diverse group of individuals to convene and holistically serve the family by helping children achieve permanency, safety, and overall family well-being.
- The Department is:
  - Onboarding facilitator positions
  - Initiating rulemaking; first workshop was on September 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Collaborating with the Community-Based Care Lead Agencies to ensure alignment of processes and protocols



# Office of Continuing Care

- The Office of Continuing Care was created to serve former foster youth ages 18 to 26 in order to receive ongoing support and coordination of care.
- The Department:
  - Has selected an Office of Continuing Care director.
  - Is recruiting and hiring peer support coordinators while prioritizing those with lived experience.
  - Will have the opportunity to deepen the service array for this population.



# Reinstatement of Parental Rights

- Allows for the motion to reinstate parental rights in specific instances when a child remains in foster care and has not been adopted following the termination of parental rights.
- The Department is:
  - Initiating rulemaking; first workshop was on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - Collaborating with Children's Legal Services to handle the motions for reinstatement of parental rights.





# Senate Bill 96 Overview

- The bill is focused on collaborating with critical partners to protect children and reduce further trauma.
  - Critical Incident Rapid Response Team (CIRRT)
  - Cross Reporting Animal Abuse
  - Kinship & Family Finders
  - Post-Adoption Service
  - Multidisciplinary Legal Representation
  - Rights of Foster Children
  - Managing Entities & Community Based Care Agencies Role



# Critical Incident Rapid Response Team

- The Critical Incident Rapid Response Team (CIRRT) process was expanded to include deployment on verified reports of sexual abuse of a child in out-of-home care when certain criteria are met.
- The Department:
  - Utilized existing CIRRT protocol to ensure readiness to begin reviewing cases for expanded population.
  - Is continuing to hire and train CIRRT team members.



# Cross Reporting Animal Abuse

- The Department is required to cross report and develop training, concerning the connection between child abuse and animal cruelty.
- The Department:
  - Created training in collaboration with the Humane Society, local code enforcement, and animal welfare consultants.
  - Released the training this month for Department staff and partners.



# Kinship & Family Finders and Post Adoption Services

- The purpose of the Family Finder Program and Kinship Navigators is to ensure a robust and exhaustive search to identify relatives for placement early in a case and that families have the support and services necessary to take care of children in order to avoid the additional trauma of future placement changes.
- Each CBC is required to offer post-adoption services to families, providing customized wrap-around services that stabilize and sustain the family.

## The Department:

- Reviewed existing Kinship & Family Finder programs operated by CBCs to determine how to replicate the model statewide.
- Promulgated rules pertaining to post adoption services prior to passage of SB 96.
- Will prioritize contract tools and support to ensure consistent compliance.



# Multidisciplinary Legal Representation

- The bill allows for the creation of Multidisciplinary Legal Representation model programs by the Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel.
- The Department is:
  - Coordinating with Regional Counsel Offices to support the implementation of a multidisciplinary representation model.
  - Coordinating Title IV-E reimbursement agreements with regional counsels and the Justice Administrative Commission (JAC).



# Rights of Foster Children

- The bill specifies rights of children in shelter or foster care and requires case management provide verbal and written instructions of these rights to children in care in a manner appropriate for their age and maturity.
- The Department is:
  - Finalizing the bill of rights brochures after completion of a workshop with multiple youth advocate programs and young adults.
    - Planned distribution for October 2021.



# Managing Entities and Community Based Care Lead Agencies

- The bill requires the Department, Managing Entities and Community Based Care Lead Agencies to work together to promote transparency of services and contractual relationships.
  - Promotional Material
  - Financial Compensation and Tax Information
  - Conflicts of Interest
- The Department is:
  - Actively working with both Managing Entities and Community Based Care Lead Agencies to coordinate data sharing and reporting requirements.



# Families First Prevention Services Act

- Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) was passed into federal law in 2018.
- Goals of the legislation:
  - Prevent children from entering foster care
  - Engage families in prevention services
  - Provide appropriate family-like settings for foster care





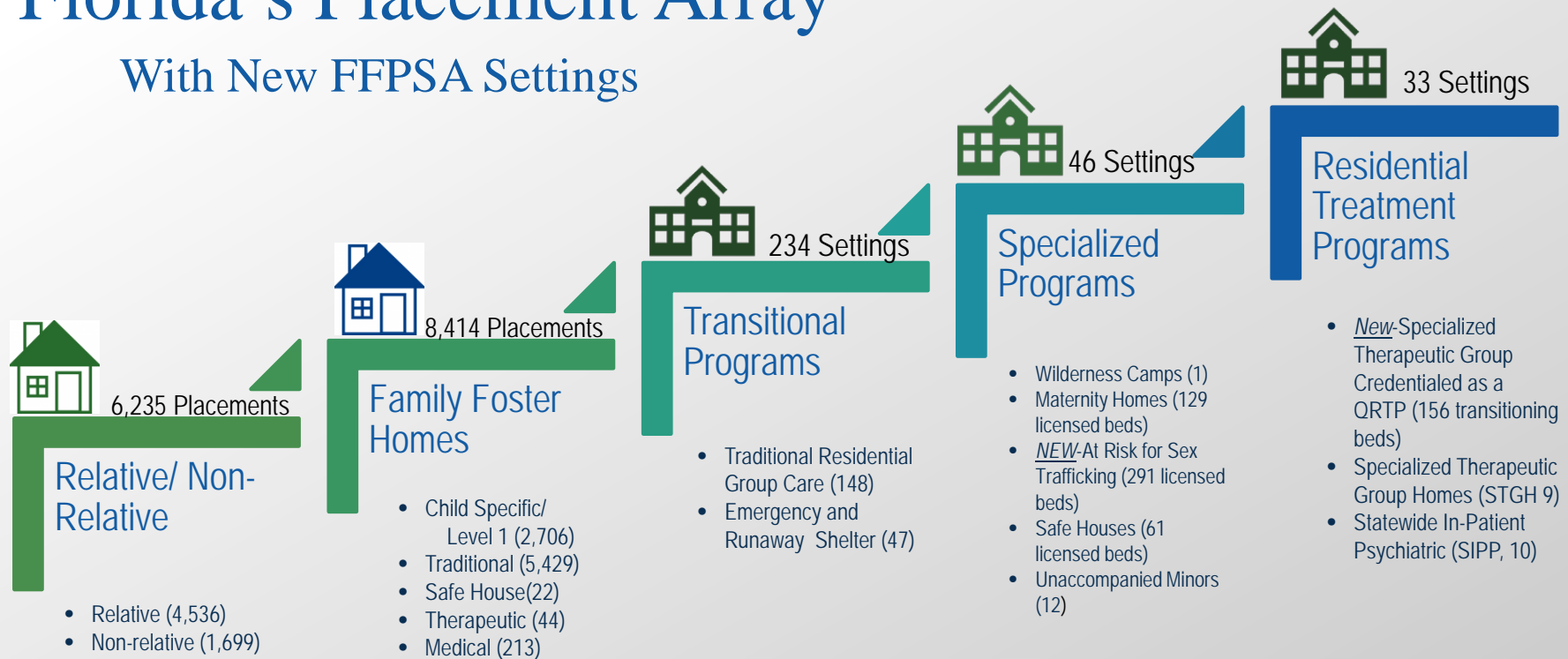
# System Readiness

- Prepared to submit the updated Title IV-E State Plan to the Administration for Children and Families by October 1.
- Working with statewide partners for the past three years to ensure maximization of federal IV-E reimbursement.
  - Defining candidacy for prevention and foster care eligibility
  - Enhancing the placement setting array and building capacity
  - Development of technology and monitoring tools for financial claiming



# Florida's Placement Array

With New FFPSA Settings



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT  
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
MYFLFAMILIES.COM

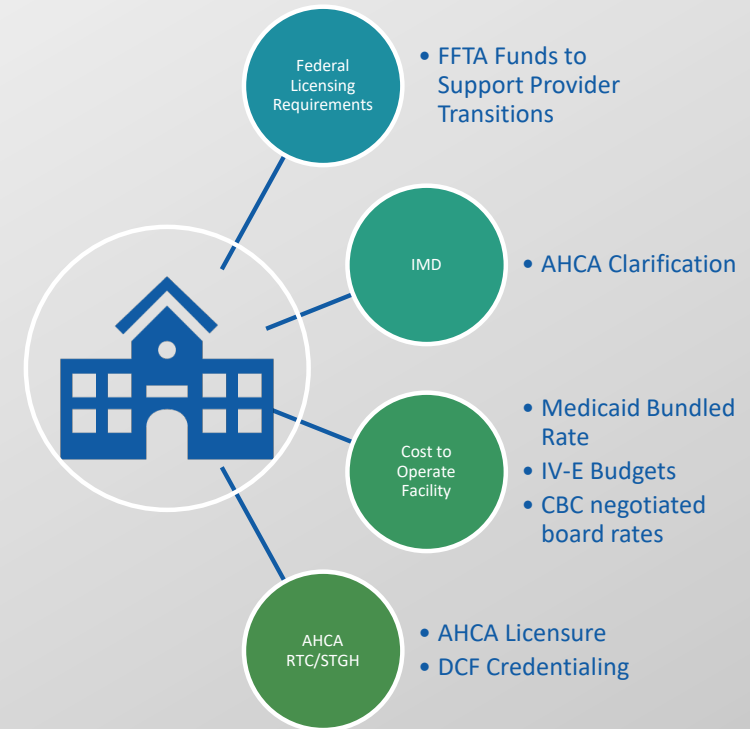
# Placements in Group Homes

- The Department has been able to identify and place around 381 children into more family-like settings during the transition to FFPSA, reducing the use of group care by 22% since July 2019.
- Approximately 400 children remain in traditional group homes.
  - The state is still eligible to claim IV-E dollars for these placements after October 1, as long as they remain in that setting.
- FFPSA has created two new federally defined group home types:
  - “At-risk” homes
  - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs)



# Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)

- Qualified Residential Treatment Programs are a new placement setting created by the FFPSA. They are a step below more restrictive settings such as Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities / Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Programs.
- The Department is working to incorporate the new federally defined QRTP setting into our placement array and aligning requirements to maximize IV-E draw down.



# Families First Transition Act

- Through the Families First Transition Act (FFTA) funding, the Federal Government has authorized the use of these funds to help implement FFPSA. The Department is using the funds to:
  - Train and increase supports to foster parents who invite children with higher acuity challenges into their homes, to increase retention and build more family-like placement capacity.
    - » Developed an enhanced level 2 foster parent status to receive:
      - Enhanced payments
      - Specialized training
      - Peer mentorship
  - Develop and fund prevention strategies to help reduce the number of children who enter care.



# Prevention Services

- Florida has elected to implement all nine well-supported Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) currently on the federal Clearinghouse.
  - The Department will utilize FFTA funds to support training for the implementation of five of the EBPs, chosen collaboratively with our community partners, and implement prioritized provider training slots for high removal areas and service deserts.

## Current Federally Approved Evidence Based Prevention Practices

Homebuilders* (Ages birth to 18, In-home parent skills)	Motivational Interviewing* (Range of target populations, substance abuse)	Healthy Families America (HFA) (Ages birth to 5, In-home parent skills)
Functional Family Therapy (FFT)* (Ages 11-18 year old, mental health)	Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT) (Ages 6-17, MH/SA/In-home parenting)	Multisystemic Therapy (MST)* (Ages 12-17, MH/SA)
Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) (Ages birth-2, In-home parenting)	Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)* (Ages 2-7, MH)	Parents as Teachers (PAT) (Ages birth-5, In-home parenting)



# Questions?



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OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
[MYFLFAMILIES.COM](http://MYFLFAMILIES.COM)

9/21/2021

Meeting Date

Children, Families, Elder Affairs

Committee

The Florida Senate

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name DCF Deputy Secretary Taylor Hatch

Phone (850) 488-9410

Address 2415 North Monroe Street

Street

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Tallahassee

FL

32303

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

### PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

*While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)*

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

9/21/2021

Meeting Date

Children, Families, Elder Affairs

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name DCF Assistant Secretary Stefanie Camfield

Phone (850) 488-9410

Address 2415 North Monroe Street

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Tallahassee

FL

32303

City

State

Zip

Speaking:  For  Against  Information **OR** Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

SB 80/96

9/21/21

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

CFEA

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

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For

Against

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**OR**

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

FL Coalition for Children

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Child Welfare

9-21-21

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Children & Families

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

JACK LEVINE

Rhymes with GREEN

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850 567 5252

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State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

# CourtSmart Tag Report

**Room:** KB 412  
**Caption:** Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

**Case No.:** -

**Type:**  
**Judge:**

**Started:** 9/21/2021 1:31:29 PM

**Ends:** 9/21/2021 2:31:03 PM

**Length:** 00:59:35

1:31:29 PM  
1:31:32 PM Meeting called to order by chair Garcia  
1:31:35 PM Roll call  
1:31:42 PM A quorum is present  
1:31:53 PM comments by chair Garcia  
1:32:15 PM Take up tab 1: a presentation by The Department of Children and Families on: the implementation of Senate Bills 80 and 96 and Florida's transition to full implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act.  
1:32:49 PM Comments by DCF Deputy Secretary Taylor Hatch  
1:34:00 PM Secretary Hatch explains the implementation of Senate Bill 80  
1:39:14 PM Secretary Hatch explains the implementation of Senate Bill 96  
1:43:11 PM Concluding comments by Secretary Hatch  
1:43:27 PM Questions; Yes  
1:43:32 PM Several questions by Senator Harrell  
1:44:18 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:45:15 PM Follow up question by Senator Harrell  
1:45:49 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:46:04 PM Additional question by Senator Harrell  
1:46:25 PM Follow up response by Secretary Hatch  
1:46:44 PM New question by Senator Harrell  
1:47:04 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:47:46 PM Additional question by Senator Harrell  
1:48:16 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:49:58 PM Follow up by Senator Harrell  
1:50:15 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:51:14 PM Final question by Senator Harrell and response by Secretary Hatch  
1:51:32 PM Two questions by Senator Wright  
1:51:53 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:52:51 PM Follow up question by Senator Wright  
1:53:29 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:54:00 PM Question by Senator Brodeur  
1:54:19 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:54:28 PM Question by Senator Rouson  
1:56:17 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:58:20 PM Follow up question by Senator Rouson  
1:58:49 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
1:59:53 PM Comments by Senator Rouson  
2:00:38 PM Questions by Senator Harrell  
2:00:53 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
2:04:01 PM Follow up question by Senator Harrell  
2:05:32 PM Questions by Senator Book  
2:05:51 PM Response by Secretary Hatch  
2:07:46 PM Questions by Chair Garcia and response by Secretary Hatch  
2:08:22 PM Comments by DCF Assistant Secretary Stefanie Camfield  
2:16:05 PM Questions; yes  
2:16:17 PM Several questions by Senator Harrell  
2:16:52 PM Response by Secretary Camfield  
2:17:18 PM Follow up question by Senator Harrell  
2:17:34 PM Response by Secretary Camfield  
2:17:48 PM Additional question by Senator Harrell  
2:18:11 PM Response by Secretary Camfield  
2:18:33 PM Comment by Senator Harrell  
2:18:46 PM Response by Secretary Camfield

**2:19:34 PM** Follow up question by Senator Harrell  
**2:19:55 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:20:03 PM** Question by Senator Harrell  
**2:20:16 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:21:27 PM** Question by Senator Harrell  
**2:21:39 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:22:30 PM** Question by Senator Book  
**2:22:49 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:23:11 PM** Follow up question by Senator Book  
**2:23:36 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:23:45 PM** Additional question by Senator Book  
**2:24:04 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:24:36 PM** Follow up question by Senator Book  
**2:24:56 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:26:02 PM** Additional question by Senator Book  
**2:26:17 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:26:54 PM** Question and comments by Senator Rouson  
**2:27:26 PM** Response by Secretary Camfield  
**2:27:35 PM** Appearances; yes  
**2:27:52 PM** Representative from the Florida Coalition for Children Victoria Zepp with comments  
**2:29:50 PM** Appearance by Jack Levine; waives speaking  
**2:31:03 PM**  
**2:31:03 PM** No additional business before the committee, motion to adjourn by Senator Harrell, The meeting is adjourned