

By Senator Silver

38-1408-98

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the foster care program of  
3           the Department of Children and Family Services;  
4           amending s. 409.145, F.S.; providing that  
5           services under the program are available to a  
6           child whose primary caregiver is a grandparent,  
7           regardless of whether the child has been  
8           declared dependent; providing an effective  
9           date.

10

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

12

13           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 409.145, Florida  
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15           409.145 Care of children.--

16           (2)(a) The following dependent children shall be  
17 subject to the protection, care, guidance, and supervision of  
18 the department or any duly licensed public or private agency:19           1.(a) Any child who has been temporarily or  
20 permanently taken from the custody of the parents, custodians,  
21 or guardians in accordance with those provisions in chapter 39  
22 that relate to dependent children.23           2.(b) Any child who is in need of the protective  
24 supervision of the department as determined by intake or by  
25 the court in accordance with those provisions of chapter 39  
26 that relate to dependent children.27           3.(c) Any child who is voluntarily placed, with the  
28 written consent of the parents or guardians, in the  
29 department's foster care program or the foster care program of  
30 a licensed private agency.

31

1           (b) In addition, a child is eligible for services  
2 under the department's foster care program if the child's  
3 primary caregiver is a grandparent of the child, regardless of  
4 whether the child has been declared dependent.

5           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998.

6  
7           \*\*\*\*\*

8                               SENATE SUMMARY

9           Provides that a child whose primary caregiver is a  
10 grandparent is eligible for services under the foster  
11 care program of the Department of Children and Family  
12 Services, regardless of whether the child has been  
13 declared dependent.