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2 An act relating to the Department of Children
3 and Family Services; providing for waiver of
4 specified provisions of law; directing the
5 department to consult with the Executive Office
6 of the Governor in implementing waiver
7 authority; requiring a report and monthly
8 status reports; requiring a comprehensive
9 reorganization plan; requiring the Department
10 of Children and Family Services to develop and
11 submit to the Legislature a proposed plan to
12 realign the boundaries of the districts of the
13 department; specifying that other statutory
14 responsibilities or related rules are not
15 impaired; providing an effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. (1) The following provisions of section
20 20.19, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are waived until
21 July 1, 2000, for the purpose of allowing the Department of
22 Children and Family Services to organize programs, districts,
23 and functions of the department to achieve more effective and
24 efficient service delivery and improve accountability,
25 notwithstanding the provisions of section 20.04, Florida
26 Statutes:

27 (a) Section 20.19(2)(b) and (f) Florida Statutes, 1998
28 Supplement, relating to the secretary and deputy secretary.

29 (b) Section 20.19(3), Florida Statutes, 1998
30 Supplement, relating to the Office of Standards and
31 Evaluation.

1 (c) Section 20.19(5)(a), Florida Statutes, 1998
2 Supplement, relating to program offices.

3 (d) Section 20.19(6)(a), (c), and (d), Florida
4 Statutes, 1998 Supplement, relating to the Assistant Secretary
5 for Administration.

6 (e) Section 20.19(8)(l), (m), (n), and (o), Florida
7 Statutes, 1998 Supplement, relating to health and human
8 services boards.

9 (f) Section 20.19(9), Florida Statutes, 1998
10 Supplement, relating to district nominee qualifications review
11 committees.

12 (g) Section 20.19(10), (a), (b), (c)1.-7., (d), (e),
13 (f), and (g), Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, relating to
14 the district administrator.

15 (h) Section 20.19(12)(d), Florida Statutes, 1998
16 Supplement, relating to the departmental budget.

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18 Actions taken under the authority granted by this section must
19 be taken in consultation with the Executive Office of the
20 Governor. The secretary shall submit a report describing
21 actions taken and additional plans for implementing the
22 provisions of this section to the Governor, the President of
23 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
24 thirty days after this bill becomes law. The department shall
25 submit status reports on a monthly basis through December
26 1999.

27 (2) The secretary shall submit a comprehensive
28 reorganization plan to the Governor, the President of the
29 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
30 January 1, 2000. The comprehensive reorganization plan must
31 describe the organizational and program restructuring

1 activities that have occurred since the effective date of this
2 act, including indications of an improved ability to carry out
3 the department's mission under section 20.19(1), Florida
4 Statutes, 1998 Supplement, and any organizational
5 efficiencies. The plan must also describe what strategies
6 proved to be ineffective or inefficient. The plan must include
7 any recommendations for reorganization, including program and
8 organizational restructuring and any statutory revisions.

9 (3) The provisions of this act shall not impair the
10 operation of any other statutory responsibilities, or the
11 rules adopted thereunder, which are specifically conferred by
12 statute until such statutes or rules are specifically amended
13 or repealed in the manner provided by law.

14 Section 2. The Department of Children and Family
15 Services, in consultation with the Office of the State Courts
16 Administrator, shall develop a proposed plan to realign the
17 districts of the department so that the district boundaries
18 are consistent with the boundaries of the judicial circuits.
19 The plan may not propose more than 15 districts for the
20 department and must include, as at least one alternative, a
21 proposal for fewer than 15 districts. The proposed plan must
22 be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of
23 the House of Representatives by December 1, 1999.

24 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
25 law.