

By Senator Meek

36-1774-99

See HB

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the state correctional system; creating s. 944.6125, F.S.; providing that certain women who are confined by the Department of Corrections should be given first consideration for placement at a correctional facility located within a reasonable distance from the residence of the minor child of the confined woman; providing for a child-friendly environment; providing for the application of the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 944.6125, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

944.6125 Imprisoned women; location of women with children.--

(1) When at all possible, women who are confined by the Florida Department of Corrections for nonviolent offenses, and who have minor children, should be given first consideration for placement at a correctional facility that is within a reasonable distance from the minor child's place of residence.

(2) Once the mother who is being confined by the department is placed at a correctional facility near the residence of the minor child, the facility must provide a child-friendly environment in which the mother and child may continue the bonding process even in the harsh reality of a prison setting.

