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An act relating to federally funded certain services for children; amending s. 409.26731, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Family Services to annually certify local funds for state match for services to children under the supervision of or in the custody of the department; providing a report; providing an effective date.

A bill to be entitled

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

Section 1. Section 409.26731, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.26731 Certification of local funds as state match for federally funded services; federal waivers. -- In order to implement Specific Appropriations 330 and 334 through 352 of the 1997-1998 General Appropriations Act, The Department of Children and Family Services is authorized to certify local funds not to exceed \$5 million as state match for children's mental health services funded by Medicaid in excess of the amount of state general revenue matching funds appropriated for such services through the 1997-1998 General Appropriations Act. The department is also authorized to certify local funds not to exceed \$5 million as state match for eligible Title IV-E, expenditures services for children under the supervision and custody of the state in excess of the amount of state general revenue matching funds appropriated for such services by the 1997-1998 General Appropriations Act in Specific Appropriations 334 through 352. Federal Medicaid or Title IV-E funds provided to the state as federal financial participation

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consequent to certified local matching funds shall
    automatically be passed through to the local entity that
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    provided the certified the local match. Notwithstanding the
    provision of s. 215.425, all such federal Title IV-E funds
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    earned for the current fiscal year as a result of utilizing
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    certified local match, except for up to five percent of such
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    earnings which the department is authorized to retain for
    administrative processes, shall be distributed as set forth in
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    this section and this process shall not impact the
    department's allocation to any district. All of the provisions
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    of this section are based upon federal approval of the
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    provisions as specifically limited in this section and shall
    not become effective if any further modifications are required
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    of the state, unless and until federal approval has been
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    obtained. The Agency for Health Care Administration is
    authorized to apply for federal waivers to modify the state
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    Medicaid plan to include optional Medicaid in-home and
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    therapeutic services for Medicaid-eligible children if the
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    state match for such services is provided by local funds
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    certified by the department as state match. Such services
    shall be available only in communities that provide the
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    certified match. The department shall annually prepare a
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    report to be submitted to the Legislature no later than
    January 1 documenting the specific activities undertaken
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    during the previous fiscal year pursuant to this section.
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