

By Representative Suarez

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to controlled substance
3 offenders; providing legislative intent
4 relating to commitment of such persons to
5 residential treatment programs in lieu of
6 imprisonment; providing legislative intent
7 relating to reallocating corrections funds to
8 pay for such treatment; providing an effective
9 date.

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11 Whereas, state sentencing guidelines require mandatory
12 prison terms for certain offenses, including possession of
13 controlled substances, and

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15 Whereas, many inmates are in state prison for
16 drug-related or drug-induced offenses and there are not enough
17 treatment beds for detoxification and rehabilitation of
18 inmates, and

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19 Whereas, it would serve a greater public good to treat
20 the chemical dependency of such offenders rather than
21 incarcerate them, and

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22 Whereas, redirecting such offenders to a residential
23 drug treatment program would reduce the inmate population in
24 Florida's prisons and the related costs of housing such
25 persons in prison, providing an opportunity to use such
26 related costs to pay for the residential drug treatment, NOW,
27 THEREFORE,

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

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30 Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature
31 that, whenever possible and to the greatest extent possible,

1 any person who violates s. 893.13(1)(a)1., (c)2., or (d)2.,
2 (2)(a)1., or (5)(a), Florida Statutes, shall reside at a
3 community residential drug punishment center on an inpatient
4 basis pursuant to s. 948.034, Florida Statutes, in lieu of
5 servng a term of imprisonment as required or authorized by s.
6 775.082, s. 775.084, or s. 921.0021, Florida Statutes.

7 (2) It is the further intent of the Legislature that
8 the moneys which would otherwise be required to be spent on
9 such person in serving a term of imprisonment be reallocated
10 to the appropriate budget entity responsible for administering
11 and operating community residential drug punishment centers to
12 be used by such entity in paying for the room, board, and
13 treatment at such center for such person.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

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17 HOUSE SUMMARY

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19 Provides legislative intent relating to commitment of
20 controlled substance offenders to residential treatment
21 programs instead of imprisonment. Provides legislative
22 intent relating to reallocating corrections funds to pay
23 for such treatment.

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