

By the Committee on General Appropriations and  
Representative Villalobos

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Department of Juvenile  
3           Justice; creating s. 985.3045, F.S.; providing  
4           eligibility requirements for funding and  
5           accountability standards for juvenile justice  
6           prevention activities; requiring all entities  
7           that receive or use state appropriations  
8           through contracts or grants for prevention  
9           services to conform to certain established  
10          prevention strategies and to collect minimum  
11          outcome data relative to the performance  
12          measures; providing requirements for  
13          state-funded private sector service providers;  
14          requiring the department to submit a report,  
15          present findings, and make recommendations to  
16          the Legislature; requiring any panel  
17          established to make recommendations to the  
18          Governor or Legislature to use such  
19          accountability standards; exempting  
20          children-in-need-of-services and  
21          families-in-need-of-services programs; creating  
22          s. 985.2155, F.S.; imposing daily subsistence  
23          fees for children in detention or commitment  
24          programs of the department; allowing the  
25          department to engage the assistance of a  
26          private collection agency or the Department of  
27          Revenue in collecting required maintenance and  
28          daily subsistence fees; limiting the total  
29          amount of the maintenance and daily subsistence  
30          fees to the actual cost of care; providing an  
31          effective date.

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

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3 Section 1. Section 985.3045, Florida Statutes, is  
4 created to read:

5 985.3045 Eligibility for funding and accountability  
6 standards for juvenile justice prevention activities.--

7 (1) Funding for juvenile justice prevention activities  
8 shall be as provided through legislative appropriations.

9 (2) All entities that receive or use state  
10 appropriations through contracts or grants to fund juvenile  
11 justice prevention services shall design the programs  
12 providing such services to further one or more strategies  
13 established to target risk factors associated with entering or  
14 reentering the juvenile justice system. The following program  
15 strategies for preventing juvenile crime are hereby  
16 authorized:

17 (a) Programs designed to encourage school attendance  
18 by at-risk youth, which may include special assistance to  
19 youth to address identified deficiencies in academic  
20 performance.

21 (b) Programs designed to engage at-risk youth in  
22 wholesome activities during nonschool hours or other times  
23 when juvenile crime is most likely to occur.

24 (c) Programs designed to help at-risk youth avoid gang  
25 activity and otherwise avoid engaging in violent activities.

26 (d) Programs designed to help at-risk youth acquire  
27 the skills they need to find meaningful employment, which may  
28 include job-placement assistance.

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30 The department may establish other program strategies to  
31 prevent juvenile crime based on documented risk factors.

1       (3) All entities that receive or use state  
2 appropriations through contracts or grants to fund juvenile  
3 justice prevention services shall, as a condition of receiving  
4 such funds, track uniform statewide outcome measures through a  
5 uniform data-collection methodology developed by the  
6 department to measure criminal activity by program  
7 participants. In addition, the department shall develop  
8 uniform statewide outcome measures and uniform data-collection  
9 methodologies for each program strategy established pursuant  
10 to subsection (2). All entities that receive or use state  
11 appropriations through contracts or grants to fund juvenile  
12 justice prevention services shall, as a condition of receiving  
13 such funds, track the applicable measures established pursuant  
14 to this subsection as follows:

15       (a) For programs designed to encourage school  
16 attendance, which may include special assistance and tutoring  
17 to address identified deficiencies in academic performance,  
18 the number of days participants attended school during  
19 participation in the program.

20       (b) For programs designed to engage at-risk youth in  
21 productive and wholesome activities during nonschool hours  
22 when juvenile crime is most likely to occur, the number of  
23 arrests during nonschool hours by program participants.

24       (c) For programs designed to help youth avoid gangs  
25 and otherwise avoid engaging in violent activities, the number  
26 of program participants arrested for violent crimes.

27       (d) For programs designed to help youth acquire the  
28 skills they need to find meaningful employment, which may  
29 include assistance in finding a suitable employer for youth,  
30 the number of program participants who get and maintain  
31 employment for at least 180 days.

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2 The department shall develop an outcome measure for each  
3 program strategy it develops that logically relates to the  
4 risk factor addressed by the strategy. In addition to the  
5 statewide outcome measures established pursuant to this  
6 subsection, the department may establish additional outcome  
7 measures unique to each individual program as long as the  
8 measures logically relate to the specific purpose of the  
9 program and the imposition of reporting requirements is not  
10 unduly burdensome. Each program shall also maintain output  
11 data that, at a minimum, details the number of youth served  
12 and the units of service provided. The department shall, to  
13 the extent practicable, establish uniform, consistent  
14 unit-of-service and unit-cost definitions.

15 (4) All private sector entities that receive or use  
16 state appropriations to fund juvenile justice prevention  
17 services shall enter into an agreement with one or more  
18 referring entities that work with children on a regular basis,  
19 which shall include, but not be limited to, local schools,  
20 local law enforcement departments, child welfare agencies, or  
21 the department. The agreement must specify the criteria to be  
22 used to refer children to the program and must be approved by  
23 the department.

24 (5) The department shall evaluate the performance  
25 measures and outcome data of the state-funded juvenile justice  
26 prevention services submitted from the agencies or entities  
27 under this section. This evaluation shall be the basis for an  
28 annual report to the Legislature specifying the number and  
29 types of juvenile justice prevention services operating in the  
30 state and shall include an assessment of the services relative  
31 to their focus areas, performance measures, and outcome data.

1 The department shall include in the report its findings  
2 concerning the impact of the identified focus areas, minimum  
3 performance measures, and minimum outcome data relative to the  
4 effectiveness of such services in preventing juvenile crime.  
5 The report may contain recommendations to modify either the  
6 program strategies established pursuant to subsection (2) or  
7 the outcome measures established pursuant to subsection (3).  
8 The report shall also identify any other matters that may be  
9 of critical importance to the prevention of juvenile crime.  
10 The report shall be due by September 1 of each year. In  
11 addition, the report shall recommend appropriate performance  
12 standards for each strategy adopted pursuant to subsection (2)  
13 and shall report the performance measures and standards as  
14 part of its performance-based legislative program budget  
15 request pursuant to s. 216.0235.

16 (6) Any panel established to review juvenile justice  
17 prevention projects for the Governor and Legislature shall  
18 utilize the outcome measures and other accountability  
19 standards provided in subsections (2)-(4) in determining  
20 whether a program meets threshold criteria for approval by the  
21 panel. In addition, any such panel may utilize outcome data of  
22 ongoing programs to determine if they have actually met  
23 expectations established as a condition for receiving state  
24 funding and may take this information into account in  
25 recommending whether programs meet threshold criteria to be  
26 recommended to the Governor and Legislature.

27 (7) This section does not apply to  
28 children-in-need-of-services and families-in-need-of-services  
29 programs.

30 Section 2. Section 985.2155, Florida Statutes, is  
31 created to read:

1           985.2155 Daily subsistence fees.--In addition to the  
2 provisions of this chapter that require the imposition of  
3 maintenance fees, the department shall collect a daily  
4 subsistence fee of \$2 for each day a child is in secure,  
5 nonsecure, or home detention care, commitment, or any other  
6 placement provided through the department pursuant to a court  
7 order. The department shall deduct the fee from any accounts  
8 established on behalf of the child prior to disbursing funds  
9 for any other purpose. If the child is unable to pay the daily  
10 subsistence fee, the natural or adoptive parents of such  
11 child, the natural father of such child born out of wedlock  
12 who has acknowledged his paternity in writing before the court  
13 or had paternity established by the court, or the guardian of  
14 such child's estate, if possessed of assets which under law  
15 may be disbursed for the care, support, and maintenance of the  
16 child, shall be required to pay the daily subsistence fee. The  
17 department shall make all reasonable efforts to collect the  
18 daily subsistence fees and court-ordered maintenance fees,  
19 including court action or reporting to a credit bureau. In  
20 addition, the department may engage the assistance of a  
21 collection agency registered and in good standing under  
22 chapter 559 or the Department of Revenue in collecting  
23 maintenance fees and daily subsistence fees required by this  
24 chapter. The court shall take into account the \$2 daily  
25 subsistence fee required by this section in establishing the  
26 maintenance fee required by this chapter so that the total  
27 fees assessed do not exceed the actual cost of care.

28           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.  
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides eligibility requirements for funding and accountability standards for juvenile justice prevention activities. Requires all entities that receive or use state appropriations through contracts or grants for prevention services to conform to certain established prevention strategies and to collect minimum outcome data relative to the performance measures. Provides requirements for state-funded private sector service providers. Requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to submit a report, present findings, and make recommendations to the Legislature. Requires any panel established to make recommendations to the Governor or Legislature to use such accountability standards. Exempts children-in-need-of-services and families-in-need-of-services programs.

Imposes daily subsistence fees for children in detention or commitment programs of the department. Allows the department to engage the assistance of a private collection agency or the Department of Revenue in collecting required maintenance and daily subsistence fees. Limits the total amount of the maintenance and daily subsistence fees to the actual cost of care.

See bill for details.