

By Senator Saunders

25-1527-00

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to juvenile prevention
3 services; creating the Office of Statewide
4 Prevention Coordination; requiring state
5 agencies that receive state appropriations to
6 fund juvenile prevention services to target
7 focus areas, to specify minimum performance
8 measures relative to a focus area, and to
9 collect minimum outcome data relative to the
10 performance measures; providing a definition;
11 requiring those agencies to submit certain
12 information to the Office of Statewide
13 Prevention Coordination; requiring the Office
14 of Statewide Prevention Coordination to submit
15 a report, present findings, and make
16 recommendations to the Legislature; providing
17 an effective date.

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

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21 Section 1. There is created within the Department of
22 Juvenile Justice the Office of Statewide Prevention
23 Coordination. This Office shall serve as the clearinghouse for
24 information concerning all state-funded juvenile prevention
25 services. For purposes of this act, "juvenile prevention
26 service" means any program, grant, appropriation, or activity
27 designed to prevent juvenile crime, delinquency, gang
28 membership, or status offense behaviors.

29 Section 2. All state agencies that receive state
30 appropriations to fund juvenile prevention services shall
31 target one or more of the focus areas that have been

1 identified by the Legislature as priority considerations for
2 the prevention of juvenile crime, delinquency, gang
3 membership, or status offense behaviors. The focus areas
4 identified by the Legislature are:

- 5 (1) Staying in school;
- 6 (2) Keeping busy;
- 7 (3) Living violence-free; and
- 8 (4) Getting a job.

9 Section 3. All state agencies that receive state
10 appropriations to fund juvenile prevention services shall
11 specify performance measures related to the focus area or
12 areas targeted by the service. At a minimum, the following
13 performance measures must be included:

14 (1) Services targeting staying in school must have
15 performance measures that include tracking school attendance
16 of youth participating in the service;

17 (2) Services targeting keeping busy must have
18 performance measures that include tracking whether youth
19 participating in the service are arrested during nonschool
20 hours;

21 (3) Services targeting living violence-free must have
22 performance measures that include tracking whether youth
23 participating in the program are arrested for crimes involving
24 violence; and

25 (4) Services targeting getting a job must have
26 performance measures that include tracking whether youth
27 participating in the program subsequently received employment.

28 Section 4. All state agencies that receive state
29 appropriations to fund juvenile prevention services shall
30 collect outcome data relative to the performance measures of
31 the juvenile prevention service or services funded through

1 that agency or entity. At a minimum, the following outcome
2 data must be collected:

3 (1) Services targeting staying in school must collect
4 outcome data concerning the attendance records of youth
5 participating in the service to identify the percentage of
6 youth who experienced excused absences, unexcused absences,
7 in-school suspensions, off-campus suspensions, expulsions, and
8 dropping-out while participating in the service. The outcome
9 data must also reflect at what rate those experiences occurred
10 among the youth participating in the service.

11 (2) Services targeting keeping busy must collect
12 outcome data concerning the number of arrests of youth who are
13 participating in the service. The outcome data must reflect
14 the percentage of these arrests that resulted from crimes
15 alleged to have occurred during nonschool hours;

16 (3) Services targeting living violence-free must
17 collect outcome data concerning the number of arrests of youth
18 who are participating in the service. The outcome data must
19 reflect the percentage of these arrests that resulted from
20 crimes of violence.

21 (4) Services targeting getting a job must collect
22 outcome data that indicate the percentage of youth who
23 received employment while participating in the service or
24 within 30 days of completing the service.

25 Section 5. The agencies that receive state
26 appropriations to fund juvenile prevention services shall
27 submit to the Office of Statewide Prevention Coordination
28 beginning no later than September 1, 2001, and no later than
29 September 1 of each year thereafter, a description of the
30 focus area or areas targeted, the performance measures
31 specified, and the outcome data collected from each

1 state-funded juvenile prevention service administered by the
2 agency or entity.

3 Section 6. The Office of Statewide Prevention
4 Coordination shall evaluate the performance measures and
5 outcome data of the state-funded juvenile prevention services
6 submitted from the agencies or entities. This evaluation will
7 be the basis for an annual report to the Legislature
8 specifying the number and types of juvenile prevention
9 services operating in the state and must include an assessment
10 of the services relative to their focus areas, performance
11 measures, and outcome data. The Office of Statewide Prevention
12 Coordination shall include in the report its findings
13 concerning the impact of the identified focus areas, minimum
14 performance measures, and minimum outcome data relative to the
15 services' effectiveness in preventing juvenile crime,
16 delinquency, gang membership, or status offense behaviors.
17 These findings must inform the Legislature as to the
18 appropriateness of the focus areas, minimum performance
19 measures, and minimum outcome data. The Office of Statewide
20 Prevention Coordination shall make recommendations to the
21 Legislature if these findings reveal a need for different or
22 additional focus areas, performance measures, or outcome data.
23 The Office of Statewide Prevention Coordination shall work
24 diligently to identify any other matters that may be of
25 critical importance to the prevention of juvenile crime,
26 delinquency, gang membership, or status offense behaviors and
27 shall present any such findings to the Legislature as part of
28 the annual report.

29 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Creates within the Department of Juvenile Justice the Office of Statewide Prevention Coordination. Requires state agencies that receive or use state appropriations to fund juvenile prevention services to target focus areas, specify minimum performance measures, and collect minimum outcome data. Requires the agencies to submit specified information to the Office of Statewide Prevention Coordination. Requires the Office to submit a report and findings and to make recommendations to the Legislature.