${\bf By}$ the Committees on Governmental Oversight and Productivity; Criminal Justice; and Senator Webster

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to classification and placement of juveniles; amending s. 984.03, F.S.; revising definitions for purposes of ch. 984, F.S., relating to children and families in need of services; amending s. 985.03, F.S.; revising definitions relating to community control and restrictiveness levels; amending s. 985.21, F.S.; providing additional intake screening requirements; amending s. 985.215, F.S.; providing for a special detention order to allow comprehensive evaluation upon a finding of delinquency; amending s. 985.229, F.S.; authorizing a predispositional report upon a finding of delinquency; requiring a predispositional report for a child for whom residential commitment disposition is anticipated or recommended; requiring the predispositional report to include a comprehensive evaluation; providing a time certain for the submission of the predispositional report; specifying parties who may receive copies of the predispositional report; amending s. 985.23, F.S.; requiring the court to consider recommendations of the Department of Juvenile Justice at disposition; providing for sanctions to include day-treatment probation programs; amending s. 985.231, F.S.; providing that the child's length of stay in a residential commitment program shall be based on objective

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performance-based treatment planning; requiring monthly progress reports to the court; authorizing extension of the child's length of stay if the child fails to comply with or participate in treatment activities; prohibiting extension of the child's length of stay for purposes of sanction or punishment; requiring any temporary release to be approved by the court; requiring communication to the court of the child's treatment plan progress and adjustment-related issues upon request to release the child; amending s. 985.404, F.S.; requiring notice of intent to transfer a child from a commitment facility or program; creating a workgroup to make recommendations for a system of classification and placement; providing minimum considerations; providing minimum membership; providing for testing and validation of the system; providing for a report to the Governor and Legislature; creating the position of youth custody officer within the Department of Juvenile Justice; providing duties of youth custody officers; providing for qualifications; requiring youth custody officers to inform local law enforcement agencies of their official activities; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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           Section 1. Subsections (27), (45), and (48) of section
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    984.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
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           984.03 Definitions.--When used in this chapter, the
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    term:
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           (27) "Family in need of services" means a family that
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   has a child who is running away; who is persistently
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    disobeying reasonable and lawful demands of the parent or
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    legal custodian and is beyond the control of the parent or
    legal custodian; or who is habitually truant from school or
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    engaging in other serious behaviors that place the child at
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    risk of future abuse, neglect, or abandonment or at risk of
    entering the juvenile justice system for whom there is no
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   pending investigation into an allegation of abuse, neglect, or
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   abandonment or no current supervision by the Department of
   Juvenile Justice or the Department of Children and Family
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   Services for an adjudication of dependency or delinquency. The
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    child must be also have been referred to a law enforcement
    agency, or the Department of Juvenile Justice, or an agency
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    contracted to provide services to children in need of
    services. A family is not eligible to receive services if, at
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    the time of the referral, there is an open investigation into
    an allegation of abuse, neglect, or abandonment or if the
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    child is currently under supervision by the Department of
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    Juvenile Justice or the Department of Children and Family
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    Services due to an adjudication of dependency or delinquency.
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    for:
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          (a) Running away from parents or legal custodians;
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          (b) Persistently disobeying reasonable and lawful
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    demands of parents or legal custodians and being beyond their
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   control; or
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          (c) Habitual truancy from school.
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(45) "Preventive services" means social services and other supportive and rehabilitative services provided to the parent of the child, the legal guardian of the child, or the custodian of the child and to the child for the purpose of averting the removal of the child from the home or disruption of a family which will or could result in an adjudication that orders the placement of a child into in foster care or into the delinquency system or that will or could result in the child living on the street. Social services and other supportive and rehabilitative services may include the provision of assessment and screening services; individual, group, or family counseling; specialized educational and vocational services; temporary shelter for the child; outreach services for children living on the street; independent living services to assist adolescents in achieving a successful transition to adulthood; and other specialized services shall promote the child's need for a safe, continuous, stable, living environment and shall promote family autonomy and shall strengthen family life as the first priority whenever possible.

(48) "Reunification services" means social services and other supportive and rehabilitative services provided to the parent of the child, the legal guardian of the child, or the custodian of the child, whichever is applicable; the child; and, where appropriate, the foster parents of the child for the purpose of enabling a child who has been placed in temporary shelter foster care to return to his or her family at the earliest possible time. Social services and other supportive and rehabilitative services shall be consistent with promote the child's need for a safe, continuous, and 31 stable—living environment and shall promote the strengthening

of family autonomy and strengthen family life as a first 2 priority whenever possible. 3 Section 2. Subsections (13) and (47) of section 4 985.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 5 985.03 Definitions.--When used in this chapter, the 6 term: 7 (13) "Community control" means the legal status of 8 probation created by law and court order in cases involving a child who has been found to have committed a delinquent act. 9 10 Community control is an individualized program in which the 11 freedom of the child is limited and the child is restricted to noninstitutional quarters or restricted to the child's home in 12 lieu of commitment to the custody of the Department of 13 Juvenile Justice. Youth on probation may be assessed and 14 classified for placement in day-treatment probation programs 15 designed for youth who represent a minimum risk to themselves 16 17 and public safety and do not require placement and services in a residential setting. Program types in this more intensive 18 19 and structured day-treatment probation option include vocational programs, marine programs, juvenile justice 20 alternative schools, training and rehabilitation programs, and 21 22 gender-specific programs. "Residential commitment Restrictiveness level" 23 (47)24 means the level of security custody provided by programs that 25 service the supervision, custody, and care, and treatment needs of committed children. Sections 985.3141 and 985.404(13) 26 27 apply to children placed in programs at any residential commitment level. The levels of residential commitment are as 28 29 follows There shall be five restrictiveness levels: 30 (a) Minimum-risk nonresidential.--Youth assessed and 31 classified for placement in programs at this restrictiveness

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restrictiveness level.

level represent a minimum risk to themselves and public safety and do not require placement and services in residential settings. Programs or program models in this restrictiveness level include: community counselor supervision programs, special intensive group programs, nonresidential marine programs, nonresidential training and rehabilitation centers, and other local community nonresidential programs, including any nonresidential program or supervision program that is used for aftercare placement. (a) (b) Low-risk residential. -- Programs or program models at this commitment level are residential but may allow youth to have unsupervised access to the community. The department may elect to require a facility to provide 24-hour awake supervision of residents. Youth assessed and classified for placement in programs at this commitment level represent a low risk to themselves and public safety but and do require placement and services in residential settings. Children who have been found to have committed delinquent acts that involve firearms, delinquent acts that are sexual offenses, or delinquent acts that would be life felonies or first degree felonies if committed by an adult shall not be committed to a program at this level. Programs or program models in this restrictiveness level include: Short Term Offender Programs (STOP), group treatment homes, family group homes, proctor homes, and Short Term Environmental Programs (STEP). Section 985.3141 applies to children placed in programs in this

(b)(c) Moderate-risk residential.--Programs or program models at this commitment level are residential but may allow youth to have supervised access to the community. Facilities are either environmentally secure, staff secure, or are

hardware-secure with walls, fencing, or locking doors. Facilities shall provide 24-hour awake supervision, custody, 2 3 care, and treatment of residents. Youth assessed and classified for placement in programs at in this commitment 4 5 restrictiveness level represent a moderate risk to public 6 safety and. Programs are designed for children who require 7 close supervision but do not need placement in facilities that 8 are physically secure. Programs in the moderate-risk residential restrictiveness level provide 24-hour awake 9 10 supervision, custody, care, and treatment. Upon specific 11 appropriation, a facility at this restrictiveness level may have a security fence around the perimeter of the grounds of 12 the facility and may be hardware-secure or staff-secure. The 13 staff at a facility at this commitment restrictiveness level 14 may seclude a child who is a physical threat to himself or 15 herself or others. Mechanical restraint may also be used when 16 17 necessary. Programs or program models in this restrictiveness level include: halfway houses, START Centers, the Dade 18 19 Intensive Control Program, licensed substance abuse 20 residential programs, and moderate-term wilderness programs 21 designed for committed delinquent youth that are operated or 22 contracted by the Department of Juvenile Justice. Section 985.3141 applies to children placed in programs in this 23 24 restrictiveness level. 25 (c)(d) High-risk residential.--Programs or program models at this commitment level are residential and shall not 26 27 allow youth to have access to the community. Facilities are hardware-secure with perimeter fencing and locking doors. 28 29 Facilities shall provide 24-hour awake supervision, custody, 30 care, and treatment of residents. Youth assessed and 31 classified for this level of placement require close

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supervision in a structured residential setting that provides 24-hour-per-day secure custody, care, and supervision. Placement in programs at in this level is prompted by a concern for public safety that outweighs placement in programs at lower restrictiveness levels. The staff at a facility at this commitment level may seclude a child who is a physical threat to himself or herself or others. Mechanical restraint may also be used when necessary. The facility may provide for single cell occupancy. Programs or program models in this level are staff-secure or physically secure residential commitment facilities and include: training schools, intensive halfway houses, residential sex offender programs, long-term wilderness programs designed exclusively for committed delinquent youth, boot camps, secure halfway house programs, and the Broward Control Treatment Center. Section 985.3141 applies to children placed in programs in this restrictiveness level. (d)(e) Maximum-risk residential Juvenile correctional facilities or juvenile prison. -- Programs or program models at this commitment level include juvenile correctional facilities and juvenile prisons. The programs are long-term residential and shall not allow youth to have access to the community. Facilities are maximum-custody hardware-secure with perimeter security fencing and locking doors. Facilities shall provide 24-hour awake supervision, custody, care, and treatment of residents. The staff at a facility at this commitment level may seclude a child who is a physical threat to himself or herself or others. Mechanical restraint may also be used when necessary. The facility shall provide for single cell occupancy, except that youth may be housed together during

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level of placement require close supervision in a maximum security residential setting that provides 24-hour-per-day secure custody, care, and supervision. Placement in a program at in this level is prompted by a demonstrated need to protect the public. Programs or program models in this level are maximum-secure-custody, long-term residential commitment facilities that are intended to provide a moderate overlay of educational, vocational, and behavioral-modification services and other maximum-security program models authorized by the Legislature and established by rule. Section 985.3141 applies to children placed in programs in this restrictiveness level.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 985.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.21 Intake and case management.--

- (1)(a) During the intake process, the juvenile probation officer shall screen each child or shall cause each child to be screened in order to determine:
- 1. Appropriateness for release, referral to a diversionary program including, but not limited to, a teen-court program, referral for community arbitration, or referral to some other program or agency for the purpose of nonofficial or nonjudicial handling.
- 2. The presence of medical, psychiatric, psychological, substance abuse, educational, or vocational problems, or other conditions that may have caused the child to come to the attention of law enforcement or the Department of Juvenile Justice. The child shall also be screened to determine whether the child poses a danger to himself or herself or others in the community. The results of this screening shall be made available to the court and to court officers. In cases where such conditions are identified, and a

 nonjudicial handling of the case is chosen, the juvenile probation officer shall attempt to refer the child to a program or agency, together with all available and relevant assessment information concerning the child's precipitating condition.

- 3. The Department of Juvenile Justice shall develop an intake and a case management system whereby a child brought into intake is assigned a juvenile probation officer if the child was not released, referred to a diversionary program, referred for community arbitration, or referred to some other program or agency for the purpose of nonofficial or nonjudicial handling, and shall make every reasonable effort to provide case management services for the child; provided, however, that case management for children committed to residential programs may be transferred as provided in s. 985.316.
- 4. In addition to duties specified in other sections and through departmental rules, the assigned juvenile probation officer shall be responsible for the following:
- a. Ensuring that a risk assessment instrument establishing the child's eligibility for detention has been accurately completed and that the appropriate recommendation was made to the court.
- b. Inquiring as to whether the child understands his or her rights to counsel and against self-incrimination.
- c. Performing the preliminary screening and making referrals for comprehensive assessment regarding the child's need for substance abuse treatment services, mental health services, retardation services, literacy services, or other educational or treatment services.

- Coordinating the multidisciplinary assessment when required, which includes the classification and placement process that determines the child's priority needs, risk classification, and treatment plan. When sufficient evidence exists to warrant a comprehensive assessment and the child fails to voluntarily participate in the assessment efforts, it is the responsibility of the juvenile probation officer to inform the court of the need for the assessment and the refusal of the child to participate in such assessment. This assessment, classification, and placement process shall develop into the predisposition report.
- Making recommendations for services and facilitating the delivery of those services to the child, including any mental health services, educational services, family counseling services, family assistance services, and substance abuse services. The juvenile probation officer shall serve as the primary case manager for the purpose of managing, coordinating, and monitoring the services provided to the child. Each program administrator within the Department of Children and Family Services shall cooperate with the primary case manager in carrying out the duties and responsibilities described in this section.

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The Department of Juvenile Justice shall annually advise the Legislature and the Executive Office of the Governor of the resources needed in order for the intake and case management system to maintain a staff-to-client ratio that is consistent with accepted standards and allows the necessary supervision and services for each child. The intake process and case management system shall provide a comprehensive approach to 31 assessing the child's needs, relative risks, and most

appropriate handling, and shall be based on an individualized treatment plan.

Section 4. Present paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 985.215, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (e), and a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection to read:

985.215 Detention.--

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(d) A child who was not in secure detention at the time of the adjudicatory hearing, but for whom residential commitment is anticipated or recommended, may be placed under a special detention order for a period not to exceed 72 hours, excluding weekends and legal holidays, for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive evaluation as provided in s. 985.229(1). Motions for the issuance of such special detention order may be made subsequent to a finding of delinquency. Upon said motion, the court shall conduct a hearing to determine the appropriateness of such special detention order and shall order the least restrictive level of detention necessary to complete the comprehensive evaluation process that is consistent with public safety. Such special detention order may be extended for an additional 72 hours upon further order of the court.

Section 5. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 985.229, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

985.229 Predisposition report; other evaluations.--

(1) Upon a finding that the child has committed a delinquent act At the disposition hearing, the court may shall order a predisposition report regarding the eligibility of the child for disposition other than by adjudication and 31 commitment to the department or for disposition of

adjudication, commitment to the department, and, if appropriate, assignment of a residential commitment level. 2 3 The predisposition report shall be the result of the multidisciplinary assessment when such assessment is needed, 4 5 and of the classification and placement process, and it shall 6 indicate and report the child's priority needs, 7 recommendations as to a classification of risk for the child 8 in the context of his or her program and supervision needs, 9 and a plan for treatment that recommends the most appropriate 10 placement setting to meet the child's needs with the minimum 11 program security that reasonably ensures public safety. A predisposition report shall be ordered for any child for whom 12 a residential commitment disposition is anticipated or 13 recommended by an officer of the court or by the department. A 14 comprehensive evaluation for physical health, mental health, 15 substance abuse, academic, educational, or vocational problems 16 17 shall be ordered for any child for whom a residential 18 commitment disposition is anticipated or recommended by an 19 officer of the court or by the department. If a comprehensive evaluation is ordered, the predisposition report shall include 20 a summary of the comprehensive evaluation. The predisposition 21 22 report shall be submitted to the court upon completion of the report but no later than 48 hours prior to the disposition 23 24 hearing. The predisposition report, but shall not be reviewed 25 by the court without the consent of the child and his or her legal counsel until the child has been found to have committed 26 27 a delinquent act. (3) The predisposition report, together with all other 28 29 reports and evaluations used by the department in preparing 30 the predisposition report, shall be made available to the

child, the child's parents or legal guardian, the child's

legal counsel, and the state attorney upon completion of the report and at a reasonable time prior to the disposition hearing.

Section 6. Subsections (2), (4), and (5) of section 985.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

985.23 Disposition hearings in delinquency cases.--When a child has been found to have committed a delinquent act, the following procedures shall be applicable to the disposition of the case:

- (2) The first determination to be made by the court is a determination of the suitability or nonsuitability for adjudication and commitment of the child to the department. This determination shall include consideration of the recommendations of the department, which may include a predisposition report. be based upon The predisposition report which shall include, whether as part of the child's multidisciplinary assessment, classification, and placement process components or separately, evaluation of the following criteria:
- (a) The seriousness of the offense to the community. If the court determines that the child was a member of a criminal street gang at the time of the commission of the offense, which determination shall be made pursuant to chapter 874, the seriousness of the offense to the community shall be given great weight.
- (b) Whether the protection of the community requires adjudication and commitment to the department.
- (c) Whether the offense was committed in an aggressive, violent, premeditated, or willful manner.

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facility.

Whether the offense was against persons or against

The record and previous criminal history of the

Previous contacts with the department, the former

property, greater weight being given to offenses against

Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, the

Corrections, other law enforcement agencies, and courts;

Prior commitments to institutions.

child if committed to a community services program or

(e) The sophistication and maturity of the child.

Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of

Prior adjudications of delinquency; and

(q) The prospects for adequate protection of the

(4) If the court determines not to adjudicate and

commit to the department, then the court shall determine what

public and the likelihood of reasonable rehabilitation of the

2. Prior periods of probation or community control;

persons, especially if personal injury resulted.

child, including without limitations:

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- control program for the child. Community-based sanctions may include, but are not limited to, participation in substance
- abuse treatment, a day-treatment probation program,

community-based sanctions it will impose in a community

- restitution in money or in kind, a curfew, revocation or
- suspension of the driver's license of the child, community service, and appropriate educational programs as determined by
- the district school board.
- (5) After appropriate sanctions for the offense are determined, the court shall develop, approve, and order a plan of community control which will contain rules, requirements, conditions, and rehabilitative programs, including the option

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of a day-treatment probation program, which that are designed
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   to encourage responsible and acceptable behavior and to
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   promote both the rehabilitation of the child and the
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   protection of the community.
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           Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section
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    985.231, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
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           985.231 Powers of disposition in delinquency cases.--
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           (d) Any commitment of a delinquent child to the
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   Department of Juvenile Justice must be for an indeterminate
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   period of time, which may include periods of temporary
   release, but the time may not exceed the maximum term of
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    imprisonment that an adult may serve for the same offense. The
   duration of the child's placement in a residential commitment
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   program of any level shall be based on objective
   performance-based treatment planning. The child's treatment
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   plan progress and adjustment-related issues shall be reported
   to the court each month. The child's length of stay in a
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   residential commitment program may be extended if the child
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    fails to comply with or participate in treatment activities.
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   The child's length of stay in such program shall not be
   extended for purposes of sanction or punishment. Any temporary
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   release from such program for a period greater than 3 days
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   must be approved by the court. Any child so committed may be
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   discharged from institutional confinement or a program upon
    the direction of the department with the concurrence of the
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   court. The child's treatment plan progress and
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   adjustment-related issues must be communicated to the court at
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   the time the department requests the court to consider
   releasing the child from the residential commitment program.
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31 Notwithstanding s. 743.07 and this subsection, and except as
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 provided in s. 985.31, a child may not be held under a commitment from a court pursuant to this section after becoming 21 years of age. The department shall give the court that committed the child to the department reasonable notice, in writing, of its desire to discharge the child from a commitment facility. The court that committed the child may thereafter accept or reject the request. If the court does not respond within 10 days after receipt of the notice, the request of the department shall be deemed granted. This section does not limit the department's authority to revoke a child's temporary release status and return the child to a commitment facility for any violation of the terms and conditions of the temporary release.

Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 985.404, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (14) is added to that section, to read:

985.404 Administering the juvenile justice continuum.--

(4) The department may transfer a child, when necessary to appropriately administer the child's commitment, from one facility or program to another facility or program operated, contracted, subcontracted, or designated by the department, including a postcommitment minimum-risk nonresidential aftercare program. The department shall notify the court that committed the child to the department and any attorney of record, in writing, of its intent to transfer of the child from a commitment facility or program to another facility or program of a higher or lower restrictiveness level. The court that committed the child may agree to the transfer or may set a hearing to review the transfer. If the

court does not respond within 10 days after receipt of the 2 notice, the transfer of the child shall be deemed granted. 3 (14) A classification and placement workgroup is established, with minimum membership to be composed of two 4 5 juvenile court judges, two state attorneys or their designated 6 assistants, two public defenders or their designated assistants, representatives of two law enforcement agencies, 7 8 and representatives of two providers of juvenile justice 9 services. Other interested parties may also participate. The 10 workgroup shall make recommendations concerning the 11 development of a system for classifying and placing juvenile offenders who are committed to residential programs. At a 12 minimum, the recommended system of classification and 13 placement shall consider the age and gender of the child, the 14 seriousness of the delinquent act for which the child is being 15 committed, whether the child has a history of committing 16 17 delinquent acts, the child's physical health, the child's mental health, whether the child has a history of substance 18 19 use or abuse, and the child's academic or vocational needs. The workgroup shall also consider whether other factors are 20 21 appropriate for inclusion in the recommended classification and placement system, including the appropriateness of 22 graduated sanctions for repeat offenders. The workgroup shall 23 24 recommend a process for testing and validating the 25 effectiveness of the recommended classification and placement system. The workgroup shall provide a report of these 26 27 recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate no later than 28 September 30, 2001. 29 30 Section 9. Youth custody officer.--

1	(1) There is created within the Department of Juvenile
2	Justice the position of youth custody officer. The duties of
3	each youth custody officer shall be to take youth into custody
4	if the officer has probable cause to believe that the youth
5	has violated the conditions of probation, home detention,
6	conditional release, or postcommitment probation, or has
7	failed to appear in court after being properly noticed. The
8	authority of the youth custody officer to take youth into
9	custody is specifically limited to this purpose.
10	(2) A youth custody officer must meet the minimum
11	qualifications for employment or appointment, be certified
12	under chapter 943, Florida Statutes, and comply with the
13	requirements for continued employment required by section
14	943.135, Florida Statutes. The Department of Juvenile Justice
15	must comply with the responsibilities provided for an
16	employing agency under section 943.133, Florida Statutes, for
17	each youth custody officer.
18	(3) A youth custody officer shall inform appropriate
19	local law enforcement agencies of his or her activities under
20	this section.
21	Section 10. This act shall take effect January 1,
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24	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
25	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR CS for SB 2336
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27	Places day treatment programs in the probation/community
28	control continuum.
29	Creates the position of youth custody officer in the Department of Juvenile Justice.
30	Redefines the terms "families in need of services," "preventive services," and "reunification services."
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