

By Senator Geller

29-381-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to youthful offenders; amending
3 s. 958.03, F.S.; redefining the term "youthful
4 offender" to include any inmate under a
5 specified age; amending s. 958.11, F.S.;
6 requiring that the Department of Corrections
7 continuously screen its institutions,
8 facilities, and programs for the presence of
9 inmates who are under that specified age;
10 requiring that the department classify and
11 assign any such offender as a youthful
12 offender; amending s. 944.17, F.S., relating to
13 commitments and classifications of prisoners;
14 clarifying that inmates under that specified
15 age are classified as youthful offenders and
16 assigned to facilities for youthful offenders;
17 providing 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. Subsection (5) of section 958.03, Florida
22 Statutes, is amended to read:

23 958.03 Definitions.--As used in this act:

24 (5) "Youthful offender" means any person who is
25 sentenced as such by the court under s. 958.04, any person who
26 or is classified as such by the department, or any inmate who
27 is less than 18 years of age pursuant to s. 958.04.28 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 958.11, Florida
29 Statutes, is amended to read:

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1 958.11 Designation of institutions and programs for
2 youthful offenders; assignment from youthful offender
3 institutions and programs.--

4 (4) The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Youthful
5 Offenders shall continuously screen all institutions,
6 facilities, and programs for the presence of any inmate who is
7 less than 18 years of age meets the eligibility requirements
8 for youthful offender designation specified in s. 958.04(1)(a)
9 and (c) whose age does not exceed 24 years and whose total
10 length of sentence does not exceed 10 years, and the
11 department shall may classify and assign any such inmate as a
12 youthful offender ~~any inmate who meets the criteria of this~~
13 ~~subsection.~~

14 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 944.17, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 944.17 Commitments and classification; transfers.--

17 (2) Each prisoner committed to the custody of the
18 department shall be conveyed to such institution, facility, or
19 program in the correctional system as the department shall
20 direct, in accordance with its classification scheme. However,
21 any inmate who is less than 18 years of age must be classified
22 as a youthful offender and assigned to a facility for youthful
23 offenders.

24 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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27 SENATE SUMMARY

28 Requires that the Department of Corrections classify any
29 offender who is less than 18 years of age as a "youthful
30 offender." Requires that such offenders be assigned to a
31 facility for youthful offenders. Requires that the
department continuously screen its institutions,
facilities, and programs for the presence of inmates who
are less than 18 years of age.