

By the Council for Healthy Communities and Committee on Juvenile Justice and Representatives Harper, Gelber, Barreiro, Richardson, Peterman, Smith, Greenstein, Weissman, Slosberg, Bucher, Bullard, Fields, Heyman, Romeo, Gannon and McGriff

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to youthful offenders; amending  
 3           s. 944.1905, F.S.; requiring that certain  
 4           inmates who are less than a specified age be  
 5           placed in specific correctional facilities and  
 6           housed in separate dormitories; requiring that  
 7           the Department of Corrections report to the  
 8           Legislature on its compliance with the  
 9           requirements for housing youthful offenders;  
 10          requiring that certain inmates who are less  
 11          than a specified age and who have no prior  
 12          juvenile adjudication be placed in facilities  
 13          for youthful offenders; providing for the  
 14          reassignment of an inmate to the general  
 15          population if the inmate threatens the safety  
 16          of other inmates or the correctional staff;  
 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) is added to section  
 22   944.1905, Florida Statutes, to read:  
 23           944.1905 Initial inmate classification; inmate  
 24   reclassification.--The Department of Corrections shall  
 25   classify inmates pursuant to an objective classification  
 26   scheme. The initial inmate classification questionnaire and  
 27   the inmate reclassification questionnaire must cover both  
 28   aggravating and mitigating factors.

29           (5)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
 30   section, the department shall assign to specific correctional  
 31   facilities all inmates who are less than 18 years of age and

1 who are not eligible for and have not been assigned to a  
2 facility for youthful offenders. Any such inmate who is less  
3 than 18 years of age shall be housed in a dormitory that is  
4 separate from inmates who are 18 years of age or older.  
5 Furthermore, the department shall provide any food service,  
6 education, training, and recreation for such inmate separately  
7 from inmates who are 18 years of age or older. The department  
8 shall report to the Legislature on compliance with this  
9 paragraph by April 1, 2002.

10 (b) Any inmate who is less than 18 years of age, who  
11 was less than 15 years of age at the time of his or her  
12 offense, and who has no prior juvenile adjudication must be  
13 placed in a facility for youthful offenders until the inmate  
14 is 18 years of age.

15 (c) Any inmate who is assigned to a facility under  
16 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) shall be removed and reassigned  
17 to the general inmate population if his or her behavior  
18 threatens the safety of other inmates or the correctional  
19 staff.

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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