

By the Fiscal Responsibility Council and Representative Ball

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to court-appointed counsel;  
amending s. 39.013, F.S.; making state payment  
of court-appointed counsel representing  
indigent parents at shelter hearings permissive  
rather than mandatory; providing an effective  
date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (11) of section 39.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.013 Procedures and jurisdiction; right to  
counsel.--

(11) Court-appointed counsel representing indigent  
parents at shelter hearings may ~~shall~~ be paid from state funds  
appropriated by general law.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
law.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Makes state payment of court-appointed counsel  
representing indigent parents at shelter hearings  
permissive rather than mandatory.