Florida House of Representatives - 2002

CS/HB 1825

By the Committee on Workforce & Technical Skills and Representatives McGriff, Murman and Greenstein

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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to services for persons who
3	have disabilities; amending ss. 20.15, 20.171,
4	229.003, 229.004, and 229.0073, F.S.;
5	conforming organizational provisions to the
6	transfer of the Division of Vocational
7	Rehabilitation and the Division of Blind
8	Services from the Department of Labor and
9	Employment Security to the Department of
10	Education; providing for establishment and
11	oversight of the divisions within the
12	reorganized state education system; amending s.
13	413.20, F.S.; revising definitions under pt. II
14	of ch. 413, F.S., relating to vocational
15	rehabilitation programs; creating s. 413.201,
16	F.S.; providing that the Department of
17	Education is the designated state agency for
18	implementing federal vocational rehabilitation
19	requirements; creating s. 413.202, F.S.;
20	providing that the Division of Vocational
21	Rehabilitation is the designated administrative
22	unit for such implementation; creating s.
23	413.203, F.S.; providing legislative intent and
24	procedure with respect to conflicting laws;
25	creating s. 413.206, F.S.; requiring the
26	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to
27	develop a 5-year plan relating to general
28	vocational rehabilitation programs; providing
29	requirements for the contents of the plan;
30	requiring annual reports; creating s. 413.207,
31	F.S.; providing quality assurance and
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1 performance requirements for the Division of	
2 Vocational Rehabilitation; creating s. 413.208,	
3 F.S.; providing for service providers' quality	
4 assurance and fitness for their	
5 responsibilities; amending s. 413.23, F.S.;	
6 revising provisions relating to the federally	
7 required state plan for administration of	
8 vocational rehabilitation services; amending s.	
9 413.395, F.S.; clarifying reporting	
10 requirements of the Florida Independent Living	
11 Council; revising references to conform to	
12 changes made by the act; amending s. 413.405,	
13 F.S.; renaming the Rehabilitation Advisory	
14 Council as the Florida Rehabilitation Council;	
15 revising council membership and duties;	
16 requiring the council to submit reports to the	
17 Governor, Legislature, and United States	
18 Secretary of Education; amending ss. 11.45,	
19 90.6063, 215.311, 394.75, 395.404, 410.0245,	
20 410.604, 413.034, 413.051, 413.064, 413.066,	
21 413.067, 413.091, 413.092, 413.401, 413.445,	
22 413.615, and 944.012, F.S.; revising language	
23 and references to conform to changes made by	
24 the act; requiring the Office of Program Policy	
25 Analysis and Government Accountability to	
26 conduct a review of the progress of the	
27 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and to	
28 prepare a report; repealing pt. III of ch. 413,	
29 F.S., and s. 445.024(8), F.S., relating to	
30 creation and duties of the Occupational Access	
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1 and Opportunity Commission; providing an effective date. 2 3 4 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 5 б Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 20.15, Florida 7 Statutes, is amended to read: 8 20.15 Department of Education.--There is created a 9 Department of Education. 10 (3) DIVISIONS.--The following divisions of the 11 Department of Education are established: 12 (a) Division of Community Colleges. 13 (b) Division of Public Schools and Community 14 Education. 15 (c) Division of Universities. (d) Division of Workforce Development. 16 (e) Division of Professional Educators. 17 (f) Division of Administration. 18 (g) Division of Financial Services. 19 20 (h) Division of Support Services. (i) Division of Technology. 21 (j) Division of Blind Services. 22 (k) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. 23 24 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and 25 paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section 20.171, Florida 26 Statutes, are amended to read: 27 20.171 Department of Labor and Employment 28 Security.--There is created a Department of Labor and 29 Employment Security. The department shall operate its programs 30 in a decentralized fashion. 31 (4)

1 (b) The assistant secretary is responsible for 2 developing, monitoring, and enforcing policy and managing 3 major technical programs and supervising the Bureau of Appeals of the Division of Unemployment Compensation. The 4 5 responsibilities and duties of the position include, but are б not limited to, the following functional areas: 7 1. Workers' compensation management and policy 8 implementation. 9 2. Unemployment compensation management and policy 10 implementation. 11 3. Blind services management and policy 12 implementation. 13 3.4. Oversight of the five field offices and any local 14 offices. 15 (5) The following divisions are established and shall 16 be headed by division directors who shall be supervised by and 17 shall be responsible to the Assistant Secretary for Programs 18 and Operations: 19 (c) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. 20 Section 3. Paragraph (i) of subsection (5) of section 229.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 21 22 229.003 Florida education governance reorganization .--(5) Effective July 1, 2001: 23 24 (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 20.15, the 25 Commissioner of Education and the Secretary of the Florida 26 Board of Education shall work together to commence the 27 reorganization of the Department of Education in accordance 28 with s. 229.0073, which shall include an Office of the Commissioner of Education comprised of the general areas of 29 operation that are common to all delivery sectors and, in 30 31 addition, shall include:

1 The creation of an Office of Technology and 1. 2 Information Services, an Office of Workforce and Economic 3 Development, an Office of Educational Facilities and SMART Schools Clearinghouse, and an Office of Student Financial 4 5 Assistance. 6 2. The creation of a Division of Colleges and 7 Universities. 8 3. The creation of a Division of Community Colleges. 4. The creation of a Division of Public Schools. 9 5. The creation of a Division of Independent 10 11 Education. 12 6. The creation of a Division of Vocational 13 Rehabilitation. 14 7. The creation of a Division of Blind Services. 15 8.6. The merger of the powers, duties, and staffs of 16 the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities and the State Board of Nonpublic Career Education, except as 17 relating to any independent nonprofit college or university 18 19 whose students are eligible to receive the William L. Boyd, 20 IV, Florida resident access grants pursuant to s. 240.605, 21 into a single Commission for Independent Education 22 administratively housed within the Division of Independent Education. 23 24 Section 4. Paragraphs (e) and (f) are added to 25 subsection (4) of section 229.004, Florida Statutes, to read: 26 229.004 Florida Board of Education .--27 (4) The board, through its secretary, with the 28 Commissioner of Education, shall be responsible for: 29 (e) The work of the director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to establish and maintain optimal 30 efficiency of a Division of Vocational Rehabilitation within 31 5

the guidelines of s. 229.0073 and part II of chapter 413 and 1 2 to achieve the mission and goals of part II of chapter 413. 3 (f) The work of the director of the Division of Blind 4 Services to establish and maintain optimal efficiency of a 5 Division of Blind Services within the guidelines of s. б 229.0073 and part I of chapter 413 and to achieve the mission 7 and goals of part I of chapter 413. 8 Section 5. Paragraphs (e) and (f) are added to subsection (4) of section 229.0073, Florida Statutes, to read: 9 10 229.0073 Reorganization of the Department of Education.--Effective July 1, 2001, notwithstanding the 11 provisions of s. 20.15, the secretary's Education 12 13 Reorganization Workgroup is established to direct and provide 14 oversight for the reorganization of Florida's K-20 Department of Education. The workgroup shall be comprised of the 15 Secretary of the Florida Board of Education, the Commissioner 16 of Education, the Governor or his designee, the Chancellor of 17 Colleges and Universities, the Chancellor of Community 18 Colleges, the Chancellor of Public Schools, and the Executive 19 20 Director of Independent Education, who shall consult with the legislative members of the Education Governance Reorganization 21 Transition Task Force. The reorganization shall: 22 (4) Establish the following divisions within the 23 24 department: 25 (e) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.--The 26 designated administrative unit for the state's vocational 27 rehabilitation program. 28 (f) Division of Blind Services.--The designated 29 administrative unit for services to blind persons. 30 Section 6. Section 413.20, Florida Statutes, is 31 amended to read: 6

413.20 Definitions.--As used in this part, the term: 1 2 "Act" means the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as (1) 3 amended. 4 "Activity of daily living" means an activity (2) 5 required on a frequent basis that permits an individual to secure or maintain independence. Such activities include, but 6 7 are not limited to, personal home care, transportation, 8 personal assistance services, housekeeping, shopping, 9 attending school, communication, and employment. 10 "Assessment for determining eligibility and (3) vocational rehabilitation needs" means a review of existing 11 data to determine whether an individual is eligible for 12 13 vocational rehabilitation services and to assign the priority, and, to the extent additional data is necessary to make such 14 determination and assignment, a preliminary assessment of such 15 16 data, including the provision of goods and services during such assessment. If additional data is necessary, the division 17 18 must make a comprehensive assessment of the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, 19 20 interests, and informed choice needs, including the need for 21 supported employment, of an eligible individual to make a 22 determination of the goals, objectives, nature, and scope of vocational rehabilitation services to be included in the 23 individualized plan for employment written rehabilitation 24 25 program of the individual. 26 (4) "Center for independent living" means a 27 consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, 28 nonresidential, private, nonprofit organization designed and 29 operated within a local community by persons who have disabilities to provide an array of independent living 30 31 services.

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"Community rehabilitation program" means a program 1 (5) 2 that provides directly or facilitates the provision of one or 3 more services to persons who have disabilities to enable them 4 to maximize their opportunities for employment, including 5 career advancement. б (6)(5) "Department" means the Department of Education 7 Labor and Employment Security. 8 (7)(6) "Disability" means a physical or mental 9 impairment that constitutes or results in a substantial 10 impediment to employment. (8)(7) "Division" means the Division of Vocational 11 12 Rehabilitation of the Department of Education Labor and 13 Employment Security. 14 (8) "Emergency medical evacuation system" means a 15 division-approved transportation system that provides timely 16 skilled emergency care and movement of persons believed to have suffered brain or spinal cord injuries. 17 (9) "Employment outcome" means, with respect to an 18 19 individual, entering or retaining full-time or, if 20 appropriate, part-time competitive employment in the integrated labor market to the greatest extent practicable, 21 22 supported employment, or any other type of employment, 23 including self-employment, telecommuting, or business 24 ownership, that is consistent with an individual's strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, 25 26 interests, and informed choice or satisfying any other 27 vocational outcome the secretary may determine to be 28 consistent with the act. 29 (10) "Extended services" means one or more ongoing support services and other appropriate services needed to 30 31 support and maintain a person who has a most significant 8

severe disability in supported employment and to assist an 1 2 eligible person in maintaining integrated and competitive 3 employment. Extended services are based upon a determination of the needs of the eligible person as specified in the 4 5 person's individualized written rehabilitation program and are б provided by a state agency, a nonprofit private organization, 7 an employer, or any other appropriate resource after the 8 person has made the transition from support provided by the 9 department.

10 (11) "Independent living core services" means 11 informational and referral services; independent living skills 12 training; peer counseling, including cross-disability peer 13 counseling; and individual and systems advocacy.

14 "Independent living services" means any (12)15 appropriate rehabilitation service that will enhance the 16 ability of a person who has a severe disability to live independently, to function within her or his family and 17 community and, if appropriate, to secure and maintain 18 19 employment. Services may include, but are not limited to, 20 psychological counseling and psychotherapeutic counseling; independent living care services; community education and 21 22 related services; housing assistance; physical and mental restoration; personal attendant care; transportation; personal 23 assistance services; interpretive services for persons who are 24 25 deaf; recreational activities; services to family members of 26 persons who have severe disabilities; vocational and other 27 training services; telecommunications services; sensory and 28 other technological aids and devices; appropriate preventive 29 services to decrease the needs of persons assisted under the program; and other rehabilitation services appropriate for the 30 31

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1 independent living needs of a person who has a severe 2 disability. 3 (13)"Limiting disability" means a physical condition that constitutes, contributes to, or, if not corrected, will 4 5 result in an impairment of one or more activities of daily б living but does not result in an individual qualifying as a 7 person who has a disability. 8 (14) "Occupational license" means any license, permit, or other written authority required by any governmental unit 9 10 to be obtained in order to engage in an occupation. 11 (15) "Ongoing support services" means services 12 provided at a twice-monthly minimum to persons who have a most 13 significant disability severe disabilities, to: 14 (a) Make an assessment regarding the employment situation at the worksite of each individual in supported 15 16 employment or, under special circumstances at the request of the individual, offsite. 17 (b) Based upon the assessment, provide for the 18 coordination or provision of specific intensive services, at 19 20 or away from the worksite, that are needed to maintain the 21 individual's employment stability. 22 The ongoing support services may consist of, but are not 23 limited to, the provision of skilled job trainers who 24 accompany the individual for intensive job-skill training at 25 26 the worksite, job development and placement, social skills 27 training, followup services, and facilitation of natural 28 supports at the worksite. 29 (16) "Person who has a disability" means an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that, for the 30 31 individual, constitutes or results in a substantial impediment 10 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 to employment and who can therefore benefit in terms of an 2 employment outcome from vocational rehabilitation services. 3 The term encompasses the <u>terms "person who has a significant</u> 4 <u>disability" and term</u> "person who has a <u>most significant</u> severe 5 disability."

б (17) "Person who has a significant severe disability" 7 means an individual who has a disability that is a severe 8 physical or mental impairment that seriously limits one or 9 more functional capacities, such as mobility, communication, self-care, self-direction, interpersonal skills, work 10 tolerance, or work skills, in terms of an employment outcome; 11 12 whose vocational rehabilitation may be expected to require 13 multiple vocational rehabilitation services over an extended 14 period of time; and who has one or more physical or mental disabilities resulting from amputation, arthritis, autism, 15 16 blindness, burn injury, cancer, cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, deafness, head injury, heart disease, hemiplegia, 17 hemophilia, respiratory or pulmonary dysfunction, mental 18 19 retardation, mental illness, multiple sclerosis, muscular 20 dystrophy, musculoskeletal disorder, neurological disorder, including stroke and epilepsy, paraplegia, quadriplegia, or 21 other spinal cord condition, sickle-cell anemia, specific 22 learning disability, end-stage renal disease, or another 23 disability or a combination of disabilities that is 24 25 determined, after an assessment for determining eligibility 26 and vocational rehabilitation needs, to cause comparable 27 substantial functional limitation. 28 (18) "Person who has a most significant disability" 29 means a person who has a significant disability who meets the designated administrative unit's criteria for a person who has 30

31 a most significant disability.

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(19)(18) "Personal assistance services" means a range 1 2 of services, provided by one or more persons, designed to 3 assist a person who has a disability to perform daily living activities on or off the job that the individual would 4 5 typically perform if the individual did not have a disability. Such services shall be designed to increase the individual's 6 7 control in life and ability to perform everyday activities on 8 or off the job.

9 (20)(19) "Physical and mental restoration" means any 10 medical, surgical, or therapeutic treatment necessary to 11 correct or substantially modify a physical or mental condition 12 that is stable or slowly progressive and constitutes an 13 impediment to employment, but is of such nature that the 14 treatment can such correction or modification may reasonably be expected to correct or modify eliminate or reduce such 15 impediment to employment within a reasonable length of time, 16 including, but not limited to, medical, psychiatric, dental, 17 and surgical treatment, nursing services, hospital care in 18 19 connection with surgery or treatment, convalescent home care, 20 drugs, medical and surgical supplies, and prosthetic and orthotic devices. 21

22 (21) "Program" means an agency, organization, or institution, or a unit of an agency, organization, or 23 institution, that provides directly or facilitates the 24 25 provision of vocational rehabilitation services as one of its 26 major functions. 27 (22) (20) "Rehabilitation" means those events and 28 processes occurring after injury and progressing to ultimate 29 stabilization and maximum possible recovery.

30 (21) "Rehabilitation center" means a division-approved

31 facility providing intermediate care that stresses

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1 rehabilitation for persons who have brain or spinal cord 2 injuries. 3 (23)(22) "Rehabilitation service" means any service, 4 provided directly or indirectly through public or private 5 agencies, found by the division to be necessary to enable a б person who has a limiting disability to engage in competitive 7 employment. 8 (24)(23) "Rules" means rules adopted made by the 9 department and promulgated in the manner prescribed by law. 10 (24) "Secretary" means the secretary of the Department 11 of Labor and Employment Security. 12 (25) "State plan" means the state plan approved by the 13 Federal Government as qualifying for federal funds under the 14 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. However, the term 15 "state plan," as used in ss. 413.39-413.401, means the State 16 Plan for Independent Living Rehabilitative Services under Title VII(A) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. 17 (26) "Supported employment" means competitive work in 18 19 integrated working settings for persons who have severe 20 disabilities and for whom competitive employment has not 21 traditionally occurred or for whom competitive employment has 22 been interrupted or is intermittent as a result of a severe disability. Persons who have severe disabilities requiring 23 supported employment need intensive supported employment 24 25 services or extended services in order to perform such work. 26 (27) "Supported employment services" means ongoing 27 support services and other appropriate services needed to 28 support and maintain a person who has a severe disability in 29 supported employment. Supported employment services are based upon a determination of the needs of the eligible individual 30 31 as specified in the person's individualized written 13

rehabilitation program. The services are provided singly or in 1 2 combination and are organized and made available in such a way 3 as to assist eligible individuals in entering or maintaining integrated, competitive employment. The services are provided 4 5 for a period of time not to extend beyond 18 months, but can be extended under special circumstances with the consent of 6 7 the individual to achieve the objectives of the rehabilitation 8 plan.

9 (28) "Third-party coverage" means any claim for, right 10 to receive payment for or any coverage for, the payment of any 11 vocational rehabilitation and related services.

12 (29) "Third-party payment" means any and all payments13 received or due as a result of any third-party coverage.

14 (30) "Transition services" means a coordinated set of 15 activities for a student, designed within an outcome-oriented 16 process, that promote movement from school to postschool activities, including postsecondary education; vocational 17 training; integrated employment; including supported 18 19 employment; continuing and adult education; adult services; 20 independent living; or community participation. The coordinated set of activities must be based upon the 21 22 individual student's needs, taking into account the student's preferences and interests, and must include instruction, 23 community experiences, the development of employment and other 24 25 postschool adult living objectives, and, when appropriate, 26 acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational 27 evaluation. 28 (31) "Transitional living facility" means a

29 state-approved facility as defined and licensed pursuant to 30 chapter 400 and division-approved in accord with this part. 31

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1 (32) "Trauma center" means a state-approved acute care 2 facility that provides diagnosis and treatment of persons who 3 have brain or spinal cord injuries. 4 (33) "Traumatic injury" means: 5 (a) A lesion to the spinal cord or cauda equina with 6 evidence of significant involvement of two of the following 7 deficits or dysfunctions: 8 1. Motor deficit. 9 2. Sensory deficit. 10 3. Bowel and bladder dysfunction; or 11 (b) An insult to the skull, brain, or its covering, 12 resulting from external trauma which produces an altered state 13 of consciousness or anatomic motor, sensory, cognitive, or 14 behavioral deficits. 15 (32)(34) "Vocational rehabilitation" and "vocational 16 rehabilitation services mean any service, provided directly or through public or private instrumentalities, to enable an 17 individual or group of individuals to achieve an employment 18 outcome, including, but not limited to, medical and vocational 19 20 diagnosis, an assessment for determining eligibility and vocational rehabilitation needs by qualified personnel; 21 22 counseling, guidance, and work-related placement services; vocational and other training services; physical and mental 23 restoration services; maintenance for additional costs 24 incurred while participating in rehabilitation; interpreter 25 26 services for individuals who are deaf; recruitment and 27 training services to provide new employment opportunities in 28 the fields of rehabilitation, health, welfare, public safety, 29 law enforcement, and other appropriate service employment; occupational licenses; tools, equipment, and initial stocks 30 31 and supplies; transportation; telecommunications, sensory, and 15

other technological aids and devices; rehabilitation 1 2 technology services; referral services designed to secure 3 needed services from other agencies; transition services; on-the-job or other related personal assistance services; and 4 5 supported employment services. (33)(35) "Vocational rehabilitation and related 6 7 services" means any services that are provided or paid for by 8 the division. 9 Section 7. Section 413.201, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 10 11 413.201 Designated state agency.--Effective on the 12 effective date of this act, for the purposes of effecting 13 compliance with the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Department of Education is designated the 14 15 official state agency. 16 Section 8. Section 413.202, Florida Statutes, is 17 created to read: 413.202 Designated administrative unit.--Effective on 18 the effective date of this act, for the purposes of effecting 19 20 compliance with the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is 21 22 designated as the administrative unit. Section 9. Section 413.203, Florida Statutes, is 23 24 created to read: 413.203 Conflict of laws.--It is the intent of the 25 26 Legislature that the provisions of this part not conflict with 27 any federal statute or implementing regulation governing 28 federal grant-in-aid programs administered by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Wherever such a conflict is 29 asserted by the applicable agency of the Federal Government, 30 31 the Department of Education shall submit to the United States

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Department of Education, or other applicable federal agency, a 1 2 request for a favorable policy interpretation of the 3 conflicting portions. 4 Section 10. Section 413.206, Florida Statutes, is 5 created to read: б 413.206 Five-year plan.--The division shall, by 7 October 1, 2002, after identifying specific weaknesses in 8 service capacity and program performance and after consulting with stakeholders, develop a 5-year plan that prioritizes any 9 additional initiatives for the provision of vocational 10 rehabilitation services, including privatization, according to 11 12 identified needs, and details the steps needed to effectively 13 implement those initiatives, consistent with federal requirements. The plan shall provide that the division, to the 14 15 extent that it is cost-efficient and cost-effective and 16 increases employment outcomes for persons who have disabilities, enter into local agreements or contracts with 17 community-based rehabilitation providers to be the service 18 19 providers for the vocational rehabilitation program, except 20 for those services and activities that are federally required. The plan must ensure the full involvement of persons who have 21 22 disabilities in the comprehensive workforce development system. The plan shall be submitted to the Governor, the 23 24 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 25 Representatives. 26 (1) The plan shall: (a) Promote innovative contracts that upgrade or 27 28 enhance direct services to persons who have a disability. 29 Contracts shall be evaluated with respect to need and cost and shall be performance-based. 30 31

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1	(b) Include recommendations regarding specific
2	performance standards and measurable outcomes and shall
3	outline procedures for monitoring the implementation of the
4	plan. The division shall annually report to the Governor, the
5	President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
6	Representatives the progress that has been made toward
7	achieving the objectives set forth in the plan.
8	(2) The division shall work with the employer
9	community to assist that community to better define, address,
10	and meet its business needs by employing qualified persons who
11	have a disability.
12	Section 11. Section 413.207, Florida Statutes, is
13	created to read:
14	413.207 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; quality
15	assuranceThe Division of Vocational Rehabilitation shall
16	maintain an internal system of quality assurance, have proven
17	functional systems, perform due diligence, review provider
18	systems of quality assurance, and be subject to monitoring for
19	compliance with state and federal laws, rules, and
20	regulations.
21	Section 12. Section 413.208, Florida Statutes, is
22	created to read:
23	413.208 Service providers; quality assurance and
24	fitness for responsibilitiesThe Division of Vocational
25	Rehabilitation shall certify providers of direct service and
26	ensure that they maintain an internal system of quality
27	assurance, have proven functional systems, and are subject to
28	a due-diligence inquiry as to their fitness to undertake
29	service responsibilities, regardless of whether a contract for
30	services is procured competitively or noncompetitively.
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1 Section 13. Subsection (4) of section 413.23, Florida 2 Statutes, is amended to read: 413.23 Administration.--The division shall provide 3 4 vocational rehabilitation services to persons who have 5 disabilities determined to be eligible therefor and, in б carrying out the purposes of this part, is authorized, among 7 other things: 8 (4) To prepare a federally required state plan for 9 vocational rehabilitation, as required by the act. The state plan must contain all of the elements required by s. 101 of 10 11 the act, including an assessment of the needs of persons who 12 have disabilities and how those needs may be most effectively 13 met. The division is authorized to make amendments to the 14 state plan considered necessary to maintain compliance with 15 the act and to implement such changes in order to qualify for 16 and maintain federal funding.After completion of the state plan or making amendments to the state plan, the division must 17 distribute copies of the state plan to the Governor, the 18 19 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 20 Representatives, and the United States Secretary of Education. 21 Section 14. Subsections (1) and (9) and paragraphs (c) 22 and (e) of subsection (11) of section 413.395, Florida 23 Statutes, are amended to read: 24 413.395 Florida Independent Living Council.--25 (1) There is created the Florida Independent Living 26 Council to assist the division and the Division of Blind 27 Services of the Department of Education Labor and Employment 28 Security, as well as other state agencies and local planning 29 and administrative entities assisted under Title VII of the act, in the expansion and development of statewide independent 30 31 living policies, programs, and concepts and to recommend 19

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improvements for such programs and services. The council shall 1 2 function independently of the division and, unless the council 3 elects to incorporate as a not-for-profit corporation, is assigned to the division for administrative purposes only. The 4 5 council may elect to be incorporated as a Florida corporation not for profit and, upon such election, shall be assisted in 6 7 the incorporation by the division for the purposes stated in 8 this section. The appointed members of the council may constitute the board of directors for the corporation. 9 10 (9) The chairperson of the council shall also serve as 11 a member of the Florida Rehabilitation Advisory Council. (11) The council shall: 12 13 (c) Coordinate activities with the Florida 14 Rehabilitation Advisory Council and other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and 15 16 issues under other federal law. (e) Submit to the Commissioner of the Federal 17 Rehabilitation Administration Services such periodic reports 18 19 as the commissioner may reasonably request and keep such 20 records, and afford access to such records, as the 21 commissioner finds necessary to verify such reports. 22 Section 15. Section 413.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 23 24 413.401 Eligibility for independent living 25 services.--Independent living services may be provided to any 26 person who has a significant severe disability and for whom a 27 reasonable expectation exists that independent living services 28 will significantly assist the individual to improve her or his 29 ability to function independently within the family or community, or to engage in or continue in employment, and to 30 31 be able to function independently.

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1 Section 16. Section 413.405, Florida Statutes, is 2 amended to read: 3 413.405 Florida Rehabilitation Advisory 4 Council.--There is created the Florida Rehabilitation Advisory 5 Council to assist the division in the planning and development б of statewide rehabilitation programs and services, to 7 recommend improvements to such programs and services, and to 8 perform the functions listed in this section. 9 (1) The council shall be composed of: 10 (a) At least one representative of the Independent 11 Living Council, which representative may be the chairperson or 12 other designee of the council. 13 (b) At least one representative of a parent training 14 and information center established pursuant to s. 631(c)(9) of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 15 16 1431(c)(9). (c) At least one representative of the client 17 assistance program established under s. 112 of the act. 18 19 (d) At least one vocational rehabilitation counselor 20 who has knowledge of and experience in vocational rehabilitation services, who shall serve as an ex officio, 21 22 nonvoting member of the council if the counselor is an employee of the department. 23 24 (e) At least one representative of community rehabilitation program service providers. 25 26 (f) At least four representatives of business, 27 industry, and labor. 28 (g) Representatives of disability advocacy groups representing a cross-section of: 29 30 1. Persons who have physical, cognitive, sensory, or 31 mental disabilities. 21

2. Parents, family members, guardians, advocates, or 1 2 authorized representatives of persons who have disabilities and who find it difficult to or are unable due to their 3 disabilities to represent themselves. 4 5 (h) Current or former applicants for, or recipients б of, vocational rehabilitation services. 7 (i) The director of the division, who shall be an ex officio member of the council. 8 9 (j) At least one representative of the state educational agency responsible for the public education of 10 students who have a disability and who are eligible to receive 11 12 vocational rehabilitation services and services under the 13 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. 14 (k) At least one representative of the board of 15 directors of Workforce Florida, Inc. 16 (2) Other persons who have disabilities, representatives of state and local government, employers, 17 community organizations, and members of the former 18 19 Occupational Access and Opportunity Commission may be 20 considered for council membership. 21 (3)(2) Total membership on the council, excluding 22 including ex officio members, shall be no less than 15 not 23 exceed 19 at any one time. 24 (4) (4) (3) Members of the council shall be appointed by 25 the Governor, who shall select members after soliciting 26 recommendations from representatives of organizations 27 representing a broad range of individuals who have 28 disabilities and organizations interested in those 29 individuals. In selecting members, the extent to which minority populations are represented must be considered to the 30 31 greatest extent practicable.

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1 (5) (4) A majority of council members shall be persons 2 who are: 3 (a) Individuals who have a physical or mental 4 impairment that substantially limits one or more of the 5 person's major life activities; who have a record of such an 6 impairment; or who are regarded as having such an impairment 7 disabilities described in s. 7(8)(B) of the act. 8 (b) Not employed by the division. 9 (6) (5) The council shall select a chairperson from among the membership of the council. 10 11 (7) (7) (6) Each member of the council shall serve for a 12 term of not more than 3 years, except that: 13 (a) A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring 14 prior to the expiration of the term for which a predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such 15 16 term. The terms of service of the members initially 17 (b) appointed shall be, as specified by the Governor, for such 18 19 fewer number of years as will provide for the expiration of 20 terms on a staggered basis. 21 22 No member of the council may serve more than two consecutive 23 full terms. 24 (8) (7) Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the 25 council shall be filled in the same manner as the original 26 appointment. A vacancy does not affect the power of the 27 remaining members to execute the duties of the council. 28 (9) (9) (8) In addition to the other functions specified in 29 this section, the council shall, after consulting with the board of directors of Workforce Florida, Inc.: 30 31

1 (a) Review, analyze, and advise the division regarding 2 the performance of the responsibilities of the division under 3 Title I of the act, particularly responsibilities relating to: 4 1. Eligibility, including order of selection. 5 2. The extent, scope, and effectiveness of services 6 provided. 7 3. Functions performed by state agencies that affect 8 or potentially affect the ability of individuals who have disabilities to achieve rehabilitation goals and objectives 9 10 under Title I. 11 (b) In partnership with the division: 12 1. Develop, agree to, and review state goals and 13 priorities in accordance with 34 C.F.R. 361.29(c); and 14 2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the vocational 15 rehabilitation program and submit reports of progress to the 16 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the United States Secretary of 17 Education in accordance with 34 C.F.R. 361.29(e). 18 19 (c)(b) Advise the department and the division and, at 20 the discretion of the department or division, assist in the preparation of applications, the state plan the strategic 21 22 plan, and amendments to the plan plans, applications, reports, needs assessments, and evaluations required by Title I. 23 24 (d) (c) To the extent feasible, conduct a review and 25 analysis of the effectiveness of, and consumer satisfaction 26 with: 27 The functions performed by state agencies and other 1. 28 public and private entities responsible for performing 29 functions for individuals who have disabilities. 30 2. Vocational rehabilitation services: 31

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Provided or paid for from funds made available 1 a. 2 under the act or through other public or private sources. 3 b. Provided by state agencies and other public and private entities responsible for providing vocational 4 5 rehabilitation services to individuals who have disabilities. 6 (e)(d) Prepare and submit an annual report on the 7 status of vocational rehabilitation services in the state to 8 the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the 9 House of Representatives, and the United States Secretary of 10 Education and the Commissioner of the Rehabilitative Services 11 Administration, established under s. 702 of the act, and make 12 the report available to the public. 13 (f)(e) Coordinate with other councils within Florida, including the Independent Living Council, the advisory panel 14 established under s. 613(a)(12) of the Individuals with 15 Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 1413(a)(12), the 16 State Planning Council described in s. 124 of the 17 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, 18 42 U.S.C. s. 6024, and the state mental health planning 19 20 council established under s. 1916(e) of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 300x-4(e), and the board of 21 22 directors of Workforce Florida, Inc. (g) (f) Advise the department and division and provide 23 for coordination and the establishment of working 24 relationships among the department, the division, the 25 26 Independent Living Council, and centers for independent living 27 in the state. 28 (h)(g) Perform such other functions as the council 29 determines to be appropriate that are comparable to functions performed by the council. 30 31

1 (10)(9)(a) The council shall prepare, in conjunction 2 with the division, a plan for the provision of such resources, 3 including at least four staff persons, as may be necessary to 4 carry out the functions of the council. The resource plan 5 shall, to the maximum extent possible, rely on the use of 6 resources in existence during the period of implementation of 7 the plan.

8 (b) If there is a disagreement between the council and 9 the division in regard to the resources necessary to carry out 10 the functions of the council as set forth in this section, the 11 disagreement shall be resolved by the Governor.

12 (c) The council shall, consistent with law, supervise 13 and evaluate such staff and other personnel as may be 14 necessary to carry out its functions.

15 (d) While assisting the council in carrying out its 16 duties, staff and other personnel shall not be assigned duties 17 by the division or any other state agency or office that would 18 create a conflict of interest.

19 (11) (10) The council shall convene at least four 20 meetings each year. These meetings shall occur in such places 21 as the council deems necessary to conduct council business. 22 The council may conduct such forums or hearings as the council considers appropriate. The meetings, hearings, and forums 23 shall be publicly announced. The meetings shall be open and 24 accessible to the public unless there is a valid reason for an 25 26 executive session. The council shall make a report of each 27 meeting which shall include a record of its discussions and 28 recommendations, all of which reports shall be made available 29 to the public.

30 <u>(12)(11)</u> The council shall reimburse members of the 31 council for reasonable and necessary expenses of attending

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council meetings and performing council duties, including 1 2 child care and personal assistance services, as provided in 3 and subject to the requirements of s. 112.061. The council may pay reasonable compensation to a member of the council if such 4 5 member is not employed or must forfeit wages from other employment for each day the member is engaged in performing 6 7 the duties of the council. 8 Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 9 11.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 10 11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.--11 (3) AUTHORITY FOR AUDITS AND OTHER ENGAGEMENTS.--12 13 (a) The Auditor General may, pursuant to his or her 14 own authority, or at the direction of the Legislative Auditing Committee, conduct audits or other engagements as determined 15 16 appropriate by the Auditor General of: The accounts and records of any governmental entity 17 1. 18 created or established by law. 19 The information technology programs, activities, 2. 20 functions, or systems of any governmental entity created or 21 established by law. 22 3. The accounts and records of any charter school created or established by law. 23 24 The accounts and records of any direct-support 4. organization or citizen support organization created or 25 26 established by law. The Auditor General is authorized to 27 require and receive any records from the direct-support 28 organization or citizen support organization, or from its 29 independent auditor. The public records associated with any 30 5. 31 appropriation made by the General Appropriations Act to a 27

1 nongovernmental agency, corporation, or person. All records of 2 a nongovernmental agency, corporation, or person with respect 3 to the receipt and expenditure of such an appropriation shall 4 be public records and shall be treated in the same manner as 5 other public records are under general law.

6 6. State financial assistance provided to any nonstate7 entity.

8 7. The Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation9 created pursuant to s. 215.56005.

10 8. The Florida On-Line High School created pursuant to 11 s. 228.082.

9. Any purchases of federal surplus lands for use as
sites for correctional facilities as described in s. 253.037.
10. Enterprise Florida, Inc., including any of its
boards, advisory committees, or similar groups created by

16 Enterprise Florida, Inc., and programs. The audit report may not reveal the identity of any person who has anonymously made 17 a donation to Enterprise Florida, Inc., pursuant to this 18 19 subparagraph. The identity of a donor or prospective donor to 20 Enterprise Florida, Inc., who desires to remain anonymous and 21 all information identifying such donor or prospective donor 22 are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Such 23

24 anonymity shall be maintained in the auditor's report.

11. The Florida Development Finance Corporation or the capital development board or the programs or entities created by the board. The audit or report may not reveal the identity of any person who has anonymously made a donation to the board pursuant to this subparagraph. The identity of a donor or prospective donor to the board who desires to remain anonymous and all information identifying such donor or prospective

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donor are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 1 2 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Such 3 anonymity shall be maintained in the auditor's report. 4 The records pertaining to the use of funds from 12. 5 voluntary contributions on a motor vehicle registration б application or on a driver's license application authorized 7 pursuant to ss. 320.023 and 322.081. 8 13. The records pertaining to the use of funds from the sale of specialty license plates described in chapter 320. 9 10 The transportation corporations under contract 14. 11 with the Department of Transportation that are acting on 12 behalf of the state to secure and obtain rights-of-way for 13 urgently needed transportation systems and to assist in the 14 planning and design of such systems pursuant to ss. 15 339.401-339.421. 15. The acquisitions and divestitures related to the 16 Florida Communities Trust Program created pursuant to chapter 17 380. 18 19 16. The Florida Water Pollution Control Financing 20 Corporation created pursuant to s. 403.1837. 21 17. The Florida Partnership for School Readiness 22 created pursuant to s. 411.01. 23 18. The Occupational Access and Opportunity Commission created pursuant to s. 413.83. 24 25 18.19. The Florida Special Disability Trust Fund 26 Financing Corporation created pursuant to s. 440.49. 27 19.20. Workforce Florida, Inc., or the programs or 28 entities created by Workforce Florida, Inc., created pursuant to s. 445.004. 29 20.21. The corporation defined in s. 455.32 that is 30 under contract with the Department of Business and 31 29

Professional Regulation to provide administrative, 1 2 investigative, examination, licensing, and prosecutorial 3 support services in accordance with the provisions of s. 4 455.32 and the practice act of the relevant profession. 5 21.22. The Florida Engineers Management Corporation б created pursuant to chapter 471. 7 22.23. The Investment Fraud Restoration Financing Corporation created pursuant to chapter 517. 8 9 23.24. The books and records of any permitholder that 10 conducts race meetings or jai alai exhibitions under chapter 11 550. 12 24.25. The corporation defined in part II of chapter 13 946, known as the Prison Rehabilitative Industries and 14 Diversified Enterprises, Inc., or PRIDE Enterprises. 15 Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 16 90.6063, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 90.6063 Interpreter services for deaf persons.--17 (5) The appointing authority may channel requests for 18 19 qualified interpreters through: 20 (b) The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Program 21 Office of the Department of Education Labor and Employment 22 Security; or 23 Section 19. Section 215.311, Florida Statutes, is 24 amended to read: 25 215.311 State funds; exceptions.--The provisions of s. 26 215.31 shall not apply to funds collected by and under the 27 direction and supervision of the Division of Blind Services of 28 the Department of Education Labor and Employment Security as provided under ss. 413.011, 413.041, and 413.051; however, 29 nothing in this section shall be construed to except from the 30 31

1 provisions of s. 215.31 any appropriations made by the state 2 to the division. 3 Section 20. Subsection (5) of section 394.75, Florida 4 Statutes, is amended to read: 5 394.75 State and district substance abuse and mental б health plans.--7 (5) The district plan shall address how substance 8 abuse and mental health services will be provided and how a 9 system of care for target populations will be provided given the resources available in the service district. The plan must 10 11 include provisions for maximizing client access to the most recently developed psychiatric medications approved by the 12 13 United States Food and Drug Administration, for developing 14 independent housing units through participation in the Section 811 program operated by the United States Department of 15 16 Housing and Urban Development, for developing supported employment services through the Division of Vocational 17 Rehabilitation of the Department of Education Labor and 18 Employment Security, for providing treatment services to 19 20 persons with co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse 21 problems which are integrated across treatment systems, and 22 for providing services to adults who have a serious mental illness, as defined in s. 394.67, and who reside in assisted 23 living facilities. 24 25 Section 21. Subsection (2) of section 395.404, Florida 26 Statutes, is amended to read: 27 395.404 Review of trauma registry data; 28 confidentiality and limited release. --29 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 381.74, each trauma center and acute care hospital shall submit severe 30 31 disability and head-injury registry data to the department as 31 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 provided by rule in lieu of submitting such registry 2 information to the Department of Labor and Employment 3 Security. Each trauma center and acute care hospital shall continue to provide initial notification of persons who have 4 5 severe disabilities and head injuries to the Division of б Vocational Rehabilitation Department of Labor and Employment 7 Security within timeframes provided in chapter 413. Such 8 initial notification shall be made in the manner prescribed by 9 the division Department of Labor and Employment Security for the purpose of providing timely vocational rehabilitation 10 11 services to the severely disabled or head-injured person. 12 Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 13 410.0245, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 14 410.0245 Study of service needs; report; multiyear 15 plan.--(1)(a) The Adult Services Program Office of the 16 Department of Children and Family Services shall contract for 17 a study of the service needs of the 18-to-59-year-old disabled 18 19 adult population served or waiting to be served by the 20 community care for disabled adults program. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education Labor 21 22 and Employment Security and other appropriate state agencies shall provide information to the Department of Children and 23 Family Services when requested for the purposes of this study. 24 25 Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 410.604, Florida 26 Statutes, is amended to read: 27 410.604 Community care for disabled adults program; 28 powers and duties of the department. --29 (2) Any person who meets the definition of a disabled adult pursuant to s. 410.603(2) is eligible to receive the 30 31 services of the community care for disabled adults program. 32

However, the community care for disabled adults program shall 1 2 operate within the funds appropriated by the Legislature. 3 Priority shall be given to disabled adults who are not eligible for comparable services in programs of or funded by 4 5 the department or the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education Labor and Employment Security; who 6 7 are determined to be at risk of institutionalization; and 8 whose income is at or below the existing institutional care 9 program eligibility standard. 10 Section 24. Subsection (1) of section 413.034, Florida 11 Statutes, is amended to read: 12 413.034 Commission established; membership.--13 (1) There is created within the Department of 14 Management Services the Commission for Purchase from the Blind or Other Severely Handicapped, to be composed of the secretary 15 16 of the Department of Management Services; the director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of 17 Education Labor and Employment Security, who shall be an ex 18 19 officio member with voting rights; the director of the 20 Division of Blind Services of the Department of Education Labor and Employment Security; and four members to be 21 appointed by the Governor, which four members shall be an 22 executive director of a nonprofit agency for the blind, an 23 executive director of a nonprofit agency for other severely 24 handicapped persons, a representative of private enterprise, 25 26 and a representative of other political subdivisions. All 27 appointed members shall serve for terms of 4 years. Appointed 28 commission members shall serve subject to confirmation by the 29 Senate. 30

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1 Section 25. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and 2 subsection (3) of section 413.051, Florida Statutes, are 3 amended to read: 4 413.051 Eligible blind persons; operation of vending stands.--5 6 (2) As used in this section: 7 "Blind licensee" means any blind person trained (a) 8 and licensed by the Division of Blind Services of the 9 Department of Education Labor and Employment Security to 10 operate a vending stand. 11 (3) Blind licensees shall be given the first 12 opportunity to participate in the operation of vending stands 13 on all state properties acquired after July 1, 1979, when such 14 facilities are operated under the supervision of the Division of Blind Services of the Department of Education Labor and 15 16 Employment Security. Section 26. Section 413.064, Florida Statutes, is 17 amended to read: 18 19 413.064 Rules.--The Department of Education Labor and 20 Employment Security shall adopt all necessary rules pertaining to the conduct of a solicitation for the benefit of blind 21 22 persons, including criteria for approval of an application for a permit for such solicitation. 23 24 Section 27. Section 413.066, Florida Statutes, is 25 amended to read: 26 413.066 Revocation of permit. -- Any failure on the part 27 of a person or organization holding a permit under the 28 provisions of ss. 413.061-413.068 to comply with the law or 29 with all rules promulgated by the Department of Education Labor and Employment Security as authorized by s. 413.064 30 31

constitutes a ground for revocation of the permit by the 1 2 Division of Blind Services. 3 Section 28. Section 413.067, Florida Statutes, is 4 amended to read: 5 413.067 Penalty.--Any person who violates the б provisions of ss. 413.061-413.068 or any rule promulgated by 7 the Department of Education Labor and Employment Security 8 pursuant thereto commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, 9 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 10 Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 413.091, Florida 11 Statutes, is amended to read: 413.091 Identification cards.--12 13 (1) The Division of Blind Services of the Department 14 of Education Labor and Employment Security is hereby empowered to issue identification cards to persons known to be blind or 15 16 partially sighted, upon the written request of such individual. 17 Section 30. Subsection (1) of section 413.092, Florida 18 19 Statutes, is amended to read: 20 413.092 Blind Babies Program.--21 (1) The Blind Babies Program is created within the 22 Division of Blind Services of the Department of Education Labor and Employment Security to provide community-based 23 early-intervention education to children from birth through 5 24 years of age who are blind or visually impaired, and to their 25 26 parents, families, and caregivers, through community-based 27 provider organizations. The division shall enlist parents, 28 ophthalmologists, pediatricians, schools, Infant and Toddlers 29 Early Intervention Programs, and therapists to help identify and enroll blind and visually impaired children, as well as 30 31

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1 their parents, families, and caregivers, in these educational 2 programs. 3 Section 31. Subsection (1) of section 413.445, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 4 5 413.445 Recovery of third-party payments for б vocational rehabilitation and related services.--7 (1) As used in this section, "vocational 8 rehabilitation and related services" means any services that 9 which are provided or paid for by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education Labor and 10 11 Employment Security. 12 Section 32. Subsection (12) of section 413.615, 13 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 14 413.615 Florida Endowment for Vocational 15 Rehabilitation.--16 (12) ANNUAL REPORT. -- The board shall issue a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the 17 House of Representatives, and the Commissioner of Education 18 Secretary of Labor and Employment Security by February 1 each 19 20 year, summarizing the performance of the endowment fund for the previous fiscal year, summarizing the foundation's 21 22 fundraising activities and performance, and detailing those activities and programs supported by the endowment principal 23 or earnings on the endowment principal or by bequests, gifts, 24 grants, donations, and other valued goods and services 25 received. 26 27 Section 33. Subsection (5) of section 944.012, Florida 28 Statutes, is amended to read: 29 944.012 Legislative intent.--The Legislature hereby finds and declares that: 30 31

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1 (5) In order to make the correctional system an efficient and effective mechanism, the various agencies 2 involved in the correctional process must coordinate their 3 efforts. Where possible, interagency offices should be 4 5 physically located within major institutions and should 6 include representatives of the Florida State Employment 7 Service, the vocational rehabilitation programs of the 8 Department of Education Labor and Employment Security, and the Parole Commission. Duplicative and unnecessary methods of 9 evaluating offenders must be eliminated and areas of 10 11 responsibility consolidated in order to more economically 12 utilize present scarce resources. 13 Section 34. Before the 2005 Regular Session of the 14 Legislature, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and 15 Government Accountability shall conduct a review of and 16 prepare a report on the progress of the Division of Vocational 17 Rehabilitation of the Department of Education. Section 35. (1) Part III of chapter 413, Florida 18 19 Statutes, consisting of sections 413.81, 413.82, 413.83, 20 413.84, 413.85, 413.86, 413.87, 413.88, 413.89, 413.90, 413.91, 413.92, and 413.93, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 21 22 (2) Subsection (8) of section 445.024, Florida 23 Statutes, is repealed. 24 Section 36. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002. 25 26 27 28 29 30 31