

By Senator Peadar

41-344C-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to community mental health
3 services; requiring that the Department of
4 Children and Family Services use certain funds
5 to expand the provision of community mental
6 health services; requiring the department to
7 submit an implementation plan for the use of
8 funds in each fiscal year to the Governor, the
9 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
10 House of Representatives; prohibiting the
11 release of funds for new community mental
12 health services until the implementation plan
13 is approved by the appropriations committees of
14 the Legislature; requiring that the
15 implementation plan include a schedule for
16 phasing in new community mental health
17 services; requiring the department to submit
18 reports concerning its progress toward
19 expanding community mental health services;
20 requiring that certain crisis services and
21 mental health services be provided by the
22 state's community mental health system by
23 specified dates; providing an effective date.

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

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27 Section 1. (1) Pursuant to the General Appropriations
28 Acts for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 fiscal years, funds
29 appropriated to the Department of Children and Family Services
30 for the purpose of expanding community mental health services
31 must be used to implement programs that emphasize treatment

1 services, rehabilitative services, support services, and
2 case-management services, as defined in section 394.67(16),
3 Florida Statutes. Following the 2002-2003 fiscal year, the
4 Department of Children and Family Services must continue to
5 expand the provision of these community mental health
6 services.

7 (2)(a) The Department of Children and Family Services
8 shall complete an implementation plan for the use of funds
9 appropriated for this purpose. The implementation plan must
10 include a schedule for phasing-in the new community mental
11 health services in each service district of the department and
12 must describe how the new services will be integrated and
13 coordinated with all current community-based health and human
14 services.

15 (b) By September 1 of each year, the Department of
16 Children and Family Services must submit to the Governor, the
17 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
18 Representatives the implementation plan for any new community
19 mental health program for which funds were appropriated under
20 the General Appropriations Act for the then-current fiscal
21 year. Notwithstanding section 216.192(1), Florida Statutes,
22 the Comptroller may not release funds appropriated for new
23 community mental health services until the appropriations
24 committees of the Legislature approve the implementation plan
25 submitted by the department. This paragraph does not apply to
26 a special legislative project designated for a specific
27 geographic area.

28 (3) On October 1, 2002, and on October 1, 2003, the
29 Department of Children and Family Services shall submit a
30 report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
31 Speaker of the House of Representatives concerning the

1 progress made toward expanding the provision of community
2 mental health services as required by subsection (1) during
3 the prior fiscal year.

4 (4) By January 1, 2004, the crisis services defined in
5 section 394.67(4), Florida Statutes, shall be implemented, as
6 appropriate, in the state's public community mental health
7 system to serve children and adults who are experiencing an
8 acute mental or emotional crisis, as defined in section
9 394.67(18), Florida Statutes. By January 1, 2006, the mental
10 health services defined in section 394.67(16), Florida
11 Statutes, shall be implemented, as appropriate, in the state's
12 public community mental health system to serve adults and
13 older adults who have a severe and persistent mental illness
14 and to serve children who have a serious emotional disturbance
15 or mental illness, as defined in section 394.492(6), Florida
16 Statutes.

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

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21 SENATE SUMMARY

22 Requires the Department of Children and Family Services
23 to expand community mental health services that emphasize
24 treatment, rehabilitation, support, and case-management
25 services. Requires that the department submit an
26 implementation plan for expanding such services to the
27 Governor and Legislature by September 1 of each year.
28 Requires that the plan include a schedule for phasing-in
29 new community mental health services in the department's
30 service districts. Prohibits the Comptroller from
31 releasing funds appropriated for new community mental
health services until the implementation plan is approved
by the appropriations committees of the Legislature.
Requires that the department submit reports to the
Governor and Legislature concerning the progress made
toward expanding community mental health services.
Requires certain crisis services and mental health
services to be implemented, as appropriate, in the
state's community mental health system by specified
dates. (See bill for details.)