HOUSE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 755

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Amendment No. 1 (for drafter's use only) CHAMBER ACTION Senate House 1 2 3 4 5 ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW 6 7 8 9 10 The Committee on Child & Family Security offered the 11 following: 12 13 14 Amendment (with title amendment) On page 6, line 26 to page 23, line 23 15 remove: said lines 16 17 18 and insert: (1)(a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the 19 20 Department of Children and Family Services shall privatize the provision of foster care and related services statewide. It is 21 22 further the Legislature's intent to encourage communities and other stakeholders in the well-being of children to 23 24 participate in assuring that children are safe and well-nurtured. However, while recognizing that some local 25 26 governments are presently funding portions of certain foster 27 care and related services programs and may choose to expand such funding in the future, the Legislature does not intend by 28 29 its privatization of foster care and related services that any 30 county, municipality, or special district be required to 31 assist in funding programs that previously have been funded by 1 File original & 9 copies hcf0003 02/07/02 12:51 pm

the state. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits any county, 1 2 municipality, or special district from future voluntary 3 funding participation in foster care and related services. As 4 used in this section, the term "privatize" means to contract 5 with competent, community-based agencies. The department shall submit a plan to accomplish privatization statewide, through a б 7 competitive process, phased in over a 3-year period beginning 8 January 1, 2000. This plan must be developed with local community participation, including, but not limited to, input 9 10 from community-based providers that are currently under contract with the department to furnish community-based foster 11 12 care and related services, and must include a methodology for 13 determining and transferring all available funds, including federal funds that the provider is eligible for and agrees to 14 15 earn and that portion of general revenue funds which is currently associated with the services that are being 16 17 furnished under contract. The methodology must provide for the 18 transfer of funds appropriated and budgeted for all services and programs that have been incorporated into the project, 19 20 including all management, capital (including current furniture and equipment), and administrative funds to accomplish the 21 22 transfer of these programs. This methodology must address expected workload and at least the 3 previous years' 23 24 experience in expenses and workload. With respect to any 25 district or portion of a district in which privatization cannot be accomplished within the 3-year timeframe, the 26 27 department must clearly state in its plan the reasons the timeframe cannot be met and the efforts that should be made to 28 remediate the obstacles, which may include alternatives to 29 30 total privatization, such as public-private partnerships. As used in this section, the term "related services" includes, 31

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but is not limited to, family preservation, independent 1 2 living, emergency shelter, residential group care, foster 3 care, therapeutic foster care, intensive residential 4 treatment, foster care supervision, case management, postplacement supervision, permanent foster care, and family 5 reunification. Unless otherwise provided for, beginning in б 7 fiscal year 1999-2000, either the state attorney or the Office of the Attorney General shall provide child welfare legal 8 services, pursuant to chapter 39 and other relevant 9 10 provisions, in Sarasota, Pinellas, Pasco, Broward, and Manatee Counties. Such legal services shall commence and be 11 12 effective, as soon as determined reasonably feasible by the 13 respective state attorney or the Office of the Attorney 14 General, after the privatization of associated programs and 15 child protective investigations has occurred. When a private nonprofit agency has received case management 16 17 responsibilities, transferred from the state under this section, for a child who is sheltered or found to be dependent 18 and who is assigned to the care of the privatization project, 19 20 the agency may act as the child's guardian for the purpose of registering the child in school if a parent or guardian of the 21 child is unavailable and his or her whereabouts cannot 22 reasonably be ascertained. The private nonprofit agency may 23 24 also seek emergency medical attention for such a child, but 25 only if a parent or guardian of the child is unavailable, his or her whereabouts cannot reasonably be ascertained, and a 26 27 court order for such emergency medical services cannot be obtained because of the severity of the emergency or because 28 29 it is after normal working hours. However, the provider may 30 not consent to sterilization, abortion, or termination of life 31 support. If a child's parents' rights have been terminated,

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the nonprofit agency shall act as guardian of the child in all 1 2 circumstances. 3 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the 4 department will continue to work towards full privatization by 5 initiating the competitive-procurement process in each county 6 by January 1, 2003. In order to provide for an adequate 7 transition period to develop the necessary administrative and service-delivery capacity in each community, the full transfer 8 of all foster care and related services must be completed 9 10 statewide by December 31, 2004. (c)(b) As used in this section, the term "eligible 11 12 lead community-based provider" means a single agency with 13 which the department shall contract for the provision of child protective services in a community that is no smaller than a 14 15 county. The secretary of the department may authorize more 16 than one eligible lead community-based provider within a 17 single county when to do so will result in more effective delivery of foster care and related services. To compete for a 18 privatization project, such agency must have: 19 The ability to coordinate, integrate, and manage 20 1. all child protective services in the designated community in 21 cooperation with child protective investigations. 22 The ability to ensure continuity of care from entry 23 2. 24 to exit for all children referred from the protective 25 investigation and court systems. The ability to provide directly, or contract for 26 3. 27 through a local network of providers, all necessary child protective services. 28 29 4. The willingness to accept accountability for 30 meeting the outcomes and performance standards related to child protective services established by the Legislature and 31 4 File original & 9 copies hcf0003 02/07/02

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1 the Federal Government.

5. The capability and the willingness to serve all children referred to it from the protective investigation and court systems, regardless of the level of funding allocated to the community by the state, provided all related funding is transferred.

7 6. The willingness to ensure that each individual who
8 provides child protective services completes the training
9 required of child protective service workers by the Department
10 of Children and Family Services.

7. The ability to maintain eligibility to receive all
federal child welfare funds, including Title IV-E and IV-A
funds, currently being used by the Department of Children and
Family Services.

15 (d) (d) (c) 1. If attempts to competitively procure services through an eligible lead community-based provider as defined 16 17 in paragraph(c)(b)do not produce a capable and willing agency, the department shall develop a plan in collaboration 18 with the local community alliance. The plan must detail how 19 20 the community will continue to implement privatization through competitively procuring either the specific components of 21 foster care and related services or comprehensive services for 22 defined eligible populations of children and families from 23 24 qualified licensed agencies as part of its efforts to develop 25 the local capacity for a community-based system of coordinated care. The plan must ensure local control over the management 26 27 and administration of the service provision in accordance with 28 the intent of this section and may include recognized best business practices, including some form of public or private 29 30 partnerships. In the absence of a community alliance, the plan 31 must be submitted to the President of the Senate and the

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Speaker of the House of Representatives for their comments. 1 (e) In any county in which a service contract has not 2 3 been executed by December 31, 2004, the department shall 4 ensure access to a model comprehensive residential services program as described in s. 409.1677 that, without imposing 5 undo financial, geographic, or other barriers, ensures б 7 reasonable and appropriate participation by the family in the 8 child's program. 9 1. In order to assure that the program is operational 10 by December 31, 2004, the department must, by December 31, 11 2003, begin the process of establishing access to a program in 12 any county in which the department has not either entered into 13 a transition contract or approved a community plan, as described in (d), that assures full privatization by the 14 15 statutory deadline. 16 2. The program must be procured through a competitive 17 process. 18 3. The Legislature does not intend for the provisions 19 of this paragraph to substitute for the requirement that full conversion to community-based care be accomplished. 20 (f) 1.2. The Legislature finds that the state has 21 22 traditionally provided foster care services to children who have been the responsibility of the state. As such, foster 23 24 children have not had the right to recover for injuries beyond the limitations specified in s. 768.28. The Legislature has 25 determined that foster care and related services need to be 26 27 privatized pursuant to this section and that the provision of such services is of paramount importance to the state. The 28 29 purpose for such privatization is to increase the level of 30 safety, security, and stability of children who are or become the responsibility of the state. One of the components 31 6

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1 necessary to secure a safe and stable environment for such 2 children is that private providers maintain liability 3 insurance. As such, insurance needs to be available and remain 4 available to nongovernmental foster care and related services 5 providers without the resources of such providers being 6 significantly reduced by the cost of maintaining such 7 insurance.

8 <u>2.3</u>. The Legislature further finds that, by requiring 9 the following minimum levels of insurance, children in 10 privatized foster care and related services will gain 11 increased protection and rights of recovery in the event of 12 injury than provided for in s. 768.28.

13 (q) (d) Other than an entity to which s. 768.28 applies, any eligible lead community-based provider, as 14 15 defined in paragraph(c)(b), or its employees or officers, except as otherwise provided in paragraph(h)(e), must, as a 16 17 part of its contract, obtain a minimum of \$1 million per claim/\$3 million per incident in general liability insurance 18 coverage. The eligible lead community-based provider must also 19 require that staff who transport client children and families 20 in their personal automobiles in order to carry out their job 21 22 responsibilities obtain minimum bodily injury liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 per claim, \$300,000 per 23 24 incident on their personal automobiles. In any tort action 25 brought against such an eligible lead community-based provider or employee, net economic damages shall be limited to \$1 26 27 million per liability claim and \$100,000 per automobile claim, including, but not limited to, past and future medical 28 expenses, wage loss, and loss of earning capacity, offset by 29 30 any collateral source payment paid or payable. In any tort 31 action brought against such an eligible lead community-based

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provider, noneconomic damages shall be limited to \$200,000 per 1 2 claim. A claims bill may be brought on behalf of a claimant 3 pursuant to s. 768.28 for any amount exceeding the limits 4 specified in this paragraph. Any offset of collateral source payments made as of the date of the settlement or judgment 5 shall be in accordance with s. 768.76. The lead б 7 community-based provider shall not be liable in tort for the acts or omissions of its subcontractors or the officers, 8 9 agents, or employees of its subcontractors. 10 (h)(e) The liability of an eligible lead community-based provider described in this section shall be 11 12 exclusive and in place of all other liability of such 13 provider. The same immunities from liability enjoyed by such 14 providers shall extend as well to each employee of the 15 provider when such employee is acting in furtherance of the provider's business, including the transportation of clients 16 17 served, as described in this subsection, in privately owned 18 vehicles. Such immunities shall not be applicable to a provider or an employee who acts in a culpably negligent 19 20 manner or with willful and wanton disregard or unprovoked physical aggression when such acts result in injury or death 21 or such acts proximately cause such injury or death; nor shall 22 such immunities be applicable to employees of the same 23 24 provider when each is operating in the furtherance of the 25 provider's business, but they are assigned primarily to unrelated works within private or public employment. The same 26 27 immunity provisions enjoyed by a provider shall also apply to any sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer or director, 28 29 supervisor, or other person who in the course and scope of his 30 or her duties acts in a managerial or policymaking capacity 31 and the conduct that caused the alleged injury arose within

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the course and scope of those managerial or policymaking 1 2 duties. Culpable negligence is defined as reckless 3 indifference or grossly careless disregard of human life. 4 (i)(f) Any subcontractor of an eligible lead community-based provider, as defined in paragraph(c)(b), 5 which is a direct provider of foster care and related services б 7 to children and families, and its employees or officers, 8 except as otherwise provided in paragraph(h)(e), must, as a part of its contract, obtain a minimum of \$1 million per 9 10 claim/\$3 million per incident in general liability insurance 11 coverage. The subcontractor of an eligible lead 12 community-based provider must also require that staff who 13 transport client children and families in their personal 14 automobiles in order to carry out their job responsibilities 15 obtain minimum bodily injury liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 per claim, \$300,000 per incident on their personal 16 17 automobiles. In any tort action brought against such subcontractor or employee, net economic damages shall be 18 19 limited to \$1 million per liability claim and \$100,000 per automobile claim, including, but not limited to, past and 20 future medical expenses, wage loss, and loss of earning 21 capacity, offset by any collateral source payment paid or 22 payable. In any tort action brought against such 23 24 subcontractor, noneconomic damages shall be limited to 25 \$200,000 per claim. A claims bill may be brought on behalf of a claimant pursuant to s. 768.28 for any amount exceeding the 26 27 limits specified in this paragraph. Any offset of collateral source payments made as of the date of the settlement or 28 29 judgment shall be in accordance with s. 768.76. 30 (j)(g) The liability of a subcontractor of an eligible 31 lead community-based provider that is a direct provider of

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foster care and related services as described in this section 1 2 shall be exclusive and in place of all other liability of such 3 provider. The same immunities from liability enjoyed by such 4 subcontractor provider shall extend as well to each employee 5 of the subcontractor when such employee is acting in furtherance of the subcontractor's business, including the б 7 transportation of clients served, as described in this 8 subsection, in privately owned vehicles. Such immunities shall not be applicable to a subcontractor or an employee who acts 9 10 in a culpably negligent manner or with willful and wanton 11 disregard or unprovoked physical aggression when such acts 12 result in injury or death or such acts proximately cause such 13 injury or death; nor shall such immunities be applicable to 14 employees of the same subcontractor when each is operating in 15 the furtherance of the subcontractor's business, but they are assigned primarily to unrelated works within private or public 16 17 employment. The same immunity provisions enjoyed by a subcontractor shall also apply to any sole proprietor, 18 partner, corporate officer or director, supervisor, or other 19 person who in the course and scope of his or her duties acts 20 in a managerial or policymaking capacity and the conduct that 21 caused the alleged injury arose within the course and scope of 22 those managerial or policymaking duties. Culpable negligence 23 24 is defined as reckless indifference or grossly careless disregard of human life. 25

26 <u>(k)(h)</u> The Legislature is cognizant of the increasing 27 costs of goods and services each year and recognizes that 28 fixing a set amount of compensation actually has the effect of 29 a reduction in compensation each year. Accordingly, the 30 conditional limitations on damages in this section shall be 31 increased at the rate of 5 percent each year, prorated from

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the effective date of this paragraph to the date at which
 damages subject to such limitations are awarded by final
 judgment or settlement.

4 (2)(a) The department may contract for the delivery, 5 administration, or management of protective services, the services specified in subsection (1) relating to foster care, б 7 and other related services or programs, as appropriate. The 8 department shall retain responsibility for the quality of contracted services and programs and shall ensure that 9 10 services are delivered in accordance with applicable federal 11 and state statutes and regulations. The department must adopt 12 written policies and procedures for monitoring the contract 13 for delivery of services by lead community-based providers. These policies and procedures must, at a minimum, address the 14 15 evaluation of fiscal accountability and program operations, including provider achievement of performance standards, 16 17 provider monitoring of subcontractors, and timely followup of 18 corrective actions for significant monitoring findings related to providers and subcontractors. These policies and procedures 19 must also include provisions for reducing the duplication of 20 the department's program monitoring activities both internally 21 and with other agencies, to the extent possible. The 22 department's written procedures must assure that the written 23 24 findings, conclusions, and recommendations from monitoring the contract for services of lead community-based providers are 25 communicated to the director of the provider agency as 26 27 expeditiously as possible. (b) Persons employed by the department in the 28 29 provision of foster care and related services whose positions 30 are being privatized pursuant to this statute shall be given hiring preference by the provider, if provider qualifications 31

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1 are met.

2 (3)(a) In order to help ensure a seamless child 3 protection system, the department shall ensure that contracts 4 entered into with community-based agencies pursuant to this 5 section include provisions for a case-transfer process to determine the date that the community-based agency will б 7 initiate the appropriate services for a child and family. This 8 case-transfer process must clearly identify the closure of the protective investigation and the initiation of service 9 10 provision. At the point of case transfer, and at the 11 conclusion of an investigation, the department must provide a 12 complete summary of the findings of the investigation to the 13 community-based agency. (b) The contracts must also ensure that each 14 15 community-based agency shall furnish information on its activities in all cases in client case records regular status 16 17 reports of its cases to the department as specified in the contract. A provider may not discontinue services on any 18 voluntary case without prior written notification to the 19 department 30 days before planned case closure. If the 20 department disagrees with the recommended case closure, 21 written notification to the provider must be provided before 22 23 the case-closure date. without prior written notification to 24 the department. After discontinuing services to a child or a 25 child and family, the community-based agency must provide a 26 written case summary, including its assessment of the child 27 and family, to the department. (c) The contract between the department and 28 29 community-based agencies must include provisions that specify 30 the procedures to be used by the parties to resolve differences in interpreting the contract or to resolve 31 12

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disputes as to the adequacy of the parties' compliance with 1 2 their respective obligations under the contract. 3 (4)(a) The department shall establish a quality 4 assurance program for privatized services. The quality 5 assurance program shall be based on standards established by a 6 national accrediting organization such as the Council on 7 Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc. (COA) or CARF--the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission. 8 The department may develop a request for proposal for such 9 10 oversight. This program must be developed and administered at 11 a statewide level. The Legislature intends that the department 12 be permitted to have limited flexibility to use funds for 13 improving quality assurance. To this end, effective January 1, 2000, the department may transfer up to 0.125 percent of the 14 15 total funds from categories used to pay for these 16 contractually provided services, but the total amount of such 17 transferred funds may not exceed \$300,000 in any fiscal year. When necessary, the department may establish, in accordance 18 with s. 216.177, additional positions that will be exclusively 19 20 devoted to these functions. Any positions required under this paragraph may be established, notwithstanding ss. 21 216.262(1)(a) and 216.351. The department, in consultation 22 with the community-based agencies that are undertaking the 23 24 privatized projects, shall establish minimum thresholds for each component of service, consistent with standards 25 established by the Legislature. Each program operated under 26 27 contract with a community-based agency must be evaluated annually by the department. The department shall submit an 28 29 annual report regarding quality performance, outcome measure 30 attainment, and cost efficiency to the President of the 31 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the

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minority leader of each house of the Legislature, and the 1 2 Governor no later than January 31 of each year for each 3 project in operation during the preceding fiscal year. 4 The department shall use these findings in making (b) 5 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature for future 6 program and funding priorities in the child welfare system. 7 (5)(a) The community-based agency must comply with statutory requirements and agency rules in the provision of 8 9 contractual services. Each foster home, therapeutic foster 10 home, emergency shelter, or other placement facility operated by the community-based agency or agencies must be licensed by 11 12 the Department of Children and Family Services under chapter 13 402 or this chapter. Each community-based agency must be licensed as a child-caring or child-placing agency by the 14 15 department under this chapter. The department, in order to eliminate or reduce the number of duplicate inspections by 16 17 various program offices, shall coordinate inspections required pursuant to licensure of agencies under this section. 18 (b) Substitute care providers who are licensed under 19 20 s. 409.175 and have contracted with a lead agency authorized 21 under this section shall also be authorized to provide registered or licensed family day care under s. 402.313, if 22 consistent with federal law and if the home has met: 23 24 1. tThe requirements of s. 402.313.; and 25 2. The requirements of s. 402.281 and has received Gold Seal Quality Care designation. 26 27 (c) A dually licensed home under this section shall be 28 eligible to receive both an out-of-home care payment and a subsidized child care payment for the same child pursuant to 29 30 federal law. The department may adopt administrative rules necessary to administer this paragraph. the foster care board 31 14 File original & 9 copies hcf0003 02/07/02 12:51 pm 00755-cfs -613537

rate and the subsidized child care rate for the same child 1 2 only if care is provided 24 hours a day. The subsidized child 3 care rate shall be no more than the approved full-time rate. 4 (6) Beginning January 1, 1999, and continuing at least 5 through June 30, 2000, the Department of Children and Family 6 Services shall privatize all foster care and related services 7 in district 5 while continuing to contract with the current 8 model programs in districts 1, 4, and 13, and in subdistrict 8A, and shall expand the subdistrict 8A pilot program to 9 10 incorporate Manatee County. Planning for the district 5 privatization shall be done by providers that are currently 11 12 under contract with the department for foster care and related services and shall be done in consultation with the 13 department. A lead provider of the district 5 program shall 14 15 be competitively selected, must demonstrate the ability to provide necessary comprehensive services through a local 16 17 network of providers, and must meet criteria established in this section. Contracts with organizations responsible for the 18 model programs must include the management and administration 19 20 of all privatized services specified in subsection (1). However, the department may use funds for contract management 21 22 only after obtaining written approval from the Executive Office of the Governor. The request for such approval must 23 24 include, but is not limited to, a statement of the proposed 25 amount of such funds and a description of the manner in which such funds will be used. If the community-based organization 26 27 selected for a model program under this subsection is not a Medicaid provider, the organization shall be issued a Medicaid 28 29 provider number pursuant to s. 409.907 for the provision of services currently authorized under the state Medicaid plan to 30 31 those children encompassed in this model and in a manner not

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to exceed the current level of state expenditure. 1 2 (7) The department, in consultation with existing lead agencies, shall develop a statewide proposal regarding the 3 4 long-term use and structure of a shared-earnings program which 5 addresses is authorized to establish and administer a risk pool to reduce the financial risk to eligible lead б 7 community-based providers resulting from unanticipated 8 caseload growth or from significant changes in client mixes or services eligible for federal reimbursement. The 9 10 recommendations in the statewide proposal must also be 11 available to entities of the department until the conversion 12 to community-based care takes place. At a minimum, the proposal must allow federal earnings received from child 13 welfare programs that are determined by the department to be 14 15 in excess of the amount appropriated in the General Appropriations Act. These purposes include, but are not 16 17 limited to: 18 (a) Significant changes in the number or composition 19 of clients eligible to receive services. 20 (b) Significant changes in the services that are eligible for reimbursement. 21 22 Significant changes in the availability of federal (C) 23 funds. 24 (d) Shortfalls in state funds available for eligible 25 or ineligible services. Significant changes in the mix of available funds. 26 (e) 27 (f) Scheduled or unanticipated, but necessary, advances to providers or other cash-flow issues. 28 29 (g) Proposals to participate in optional Medicaid 30 services or other federal grant opportunities. 31 (h) Appropriate incentive structures. 16 File original & 9 copies 02/07/02 hcf0003 00755-cfs -613537 12:51 pm

(i) Continuity of care in the event of lead-agency 1 2 failure, discontinuance of service, or financial misconduct. 3 4 The department shall further specify the necessary steps to 5 ensure the financial integrity of these dollars and their continued availability on an ongoing basis. The final proposal б 7 shall be submitted to the Legislative Budget Commission for formal adoption before December 31, 2002. If the Legislative 8 Budget Commission refuses to concur with the adoption of the 9 10 proposal, the department shall present its proposal in the 11 form of recommended legislation to the President of the Senate 12 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives before the 13 commencement of the next legislative session. (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 215.425, all 14 15 documented federal funds earned for the current fiscal year by 16 the department and community-based agencies which exceed the 17 amount appropriated by the Legislature shall be distributed to all entities that contributed to the excess earnings based on 18 a schedule and methodology developed by the department and 19 20 approved by the Executive Office of the Governor. Distribution shall be pro rata based on total earnings and shall be made 21 only to those entities that contributed to excess earnings. 22 Excess earnings of community-based agencies shall be used only 23 24 in the service district in which they were earned. Additional 25 state funds appropriated by the Legislature for community-based agencies or made available pursuant to the 26 27 budgetary amendment process described in s. 216.177 shall be transferred to the community-based agencies. The department 28 29 shall amend a community-based agency's contract to permit expenditure of the funds. The distribution program applies 30 31 only to entities that were under privatization contracts as of 17

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July 1, 2002 1999. This program is authorized for a period of 1 3 years beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2002. The 2 3 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government 4 Accountability shall review this program and report to the 5 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of 6 Representatives by December 31, 2001. The review shall assess 7 the program to determine how the additional resources were used, the number of additional clients served, the 8 9 improvements in quality of service attained, the performance 10 outcomes associated with the additional resources, and the feasibility of continuing or expanding this program. 11 12 (9) Each district and subdistrict that participates in 13 the model program effort or any future privatization effort as 14 described in this section must thoroughly analyze and report 15 the complete direct and indirect costs of delivering these 16 services through the department and the full cost of 17 privatization, including the cost of monitoring and evaluating the contracted services. 18 19 20 21 And the title is amended as follows: 22 On page 2, line 2 23 24 remove: said line 25 26 and insert: 27 may close a case; modifying the requirements concerning dual licensure of foster homes; 28 eliminating the authority for 29 30 31 18

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