

By the Committee on Children and Families; and Senator Smith

300-1902-03

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to trust funds; creating the  
3           Child Advocacy Trust Fund within the Department  
4           of Children and Family Services; providing for  
5           sources of funds and purposes; requiring the  
6           development of an allocation methodology for  
7           distributing funds deposited in the trust fund;  
8           providing for funds to establish children's  
9           advocacy centers; providing for an annual  
10          carryforward of funds; providing for future  
11          legislative review and termination or  
12          re-creation of the trust fund; providing a  
13          contingent effective date.

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

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17           Section 1. Child Advocacy Trust Fund.--  
18           (1)(a) The Child Advocacy Trust Fund is created within  
19 the Department of Children and Family Services for the purpose  
20 of receiving funds collected from the additional court cost  
21 imposed in cases of certain crimes against minors under  
22 section 938.10, Florida Statutes. Funds shall be appropriated  
23 to the Department of Children and Family Services as a  
24 grants-in-aid for the specific purpose of funding children's  
25 advocacy centers. Funds shall be disbursed to the Florida  
26 Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., as established  
27 under section 39.3035, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of  
28 providing community-based services that augment, but that do  
29 not duplicate, services provided by state agencies.  
30           (b) The Board of Directors of the Florida Network of  
31 Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., shall retain 10 percent of

1 all revenues collected for network expenditures to provide  
2 funds to match local contributions in communities establishing  
3 children's advocacy centers. The board of directors shall also  
4 develop funding criteria and an allocation methodology that  
5 ensures an equitable distribution of remaining funds among  
6 network participants. The criteria and methodologies shall  
7 take into account factors that include, but need not be  
8 limited to, the center's accreditation status with respect to  
9 the National Children's Alliance, the number of clients  
10 served, and the population of the area being served by the  
11 children's advocacy center.

12 (2) Notwithstanding section 216.301, Florida Statutes,  
13 and pursuant to section 216.351, Florida Statutes, any balance  
14 in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year shall remain  
15 in the trust fund at the end of the year and shall be  
16 available for carrying out the purposes of the trust fund.

17 (3) Pursuant to Section 19(f)(2), Article III of the  
18 State Constitution, the trust fund shall, unless terminated  
19 sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2007. Before its scheduled  
20 termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in  
21 section 215.3206(1) and (2), Florida Statutes.

22 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, if  
23 Senate Bill 1056 or similar legislation is adopted in the same  
24 legislative session, or an extension thereof, and becomes law.  
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1                   STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
2                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
3                   Senate Bill 1048  
4                   Specifies that funds generated are to be dispersed to the  
5                   Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., instead  
6                   of equally to child advocacy centers that are members of the  
7                   network.  
8                   Requires that funds generated be used to provide  
9                   community-based services that augment but do not duplicate any  
10                  services provided by a state agency.  
11                  Requires that the Board of Directors of the Florida Network of  
12                  Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., develop funding criteria  
13                  and allocation methodologies to disperse funds to the  
14                  children's advocacy centers.  
15                  Authorizes 10 percent of all funds generated to be retained by  
16                  the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., to  
17                  be used for certain specified purposes.  
18                  Specifies the mechanisms by which funds are collected,  
19                  dispersed and appropriated.  
20                  Directs funds generated to be appropriated to a "grants in  
21                  aid" category to the Department of Children and Family  
22                  Services for the specific purposes of funding children's  
23                  advocacy centers.  
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