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CHAMBER ACTION

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The Committee on Future of Florida's Families recommends the following:

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Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to The Baker Act; amending s. 394.455, F.S.; revising a definition; providing additional definitions; amending s. 394.4598, F.S.; revising language with respect to the guardian advocate; authorizing the quardian advocate to consent to administration of medication over objection under certain circumstances; amending s. 394.4615, F.S.; providing for release of certain clinical records to certain persons for certain purposes; amending s. 394.463, F.S.; revising criteria and procedures for involuntary examination; creating s. 394.466, F.S.; setting forth criteria for involuntary outpatient placement; providing contents of a petition for involuntary outpatient placement; specifying procedures for involuntary outpatient placement; providing for persons who may file a petition for involuntary outpatient placement; providing for appointment of counsel; providing for continuance of hearings; providing for a hearing on



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involuntary outpatient placement; setting forth procedures for the hearing; providing for appointment of a master to preside; providing for an independent examination; requiring a court to order involuntary outpatient placement under certain circumstances; requiring a treatment plan; providing for plan modification; providing for a patient to be brought to a receiving facility upon failure or refusal to comply with the treatment plan; providing for involuntary inpatient placement or involuntary assessment; requiring consideration of a patient's competence to proceed; requiring a list of quardian advocates to be submitted to the court; defining the role of a quardian advocate; providing for discharge of the guardian advocate; requiring certain documentation; allowing a person for whom an involuntary outpatient placement petition has been filed to agree to a voluntary treatment agreement; specifying requirements for agreements; providing for modifications; providing for filing of an affidavit of noncompliance with a voluntary treatment plan; requiring a hearing; requiring dismissal of petitions in certain circumstances; providing procedures for continued involuntary outpatient placement; providing for a continued involuntary outpatient placement certificate; requiring a hearing; requiring appointment of a public defender; requiring hearings; providing for appointment of a special master; amending s. 394.467, F.S.; revising language with respect to involuntary inpatient placement; providing a reference to inpatient

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and outpatient involuntary placement; providing requirements for placement orders; providing for voluntary treatment agreements; providing a procedure for continued involuntary outpatient placement; establishing the Involuntary Outpatient Placement Implementation Task Force; providing purposes; providing for membership; providing for meetings; requiring the task force to prepare an implementation plan relating to court-ordered mental health outpatient treatment; requiring a report to the Governor, Legislature, and Florida Supreme Court; providing for severability; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, untreated mental illness is a difficult issue confronting every Florida community, and

WHEREAS, there are Floridians with severe mental illnesses who are prone to relapse, often fail to comply with their treatment plans, and have repeated hospitalizations and criminal justice contacts, who are sometimes referred to as "Baker Act recidivists," and

WHEREAS, many states use some form of civil commitment to compel Baker Act recidivists to undergo treatment on an involuntary outpatient basis, and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to protect public safety and ensure that Baker Act recidivists receive needed mental health services, while preserving the due process rights of individuals with mental illness, and

WHEREAS, implementation and oversight of the involuntary outpatient placement system involves the cooperative efforts and



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combined resources of the Department of Children and Family Services, the offices of the state attorneys, the offices of the public defenders, the state courts, the clerks of court, and law enforcement, among others, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is facing numerous unprecedented fiscal challenges, some of which have a direct bearing on involuntary outpatient placement, including revenue shortfalls, the transition to state funding of the judicial branch pursuant to Article V Revision 7, consideration of the proper placement of the Mental Health Program Office, and development of strategies to address the staggering growth in Medicaid spending, and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to address this issue in a deliberative, thoughtful process which allows consideration of the difficult fiscal issues presented by a statutory process for involuntary outpatient placement and to appoint a task force to make recommendations on the effectuation of court-ordered outpatient mental health treatment in sufficient time to allow the stakeholders and funding entities to adequately prepare for implementation in fiscal year 2004-2005, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 394.455, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (31) and (32) are added to said section, to read:

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394.455 Definitions.--As used in this part, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the term:

- (3) "Clinical record" means all parts of the record required to be maintained and includes all medical records, progress notes, charts, and admission and discharge data, and all other information recorded by a facility which pertains to the patient's hospitalization or and treatment.
- (31) "Service provider" means any public or private receiving facility, entity under contract with the Department of Children and Family Services to provide mental health services, or a clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, physician, psychiatric nurse, community mental health center, or clinic as defined in this part.
- (32) "Involuntary placement" means involuntary outpatient treatment pursuant to s. 394.466 or involuntary inpatient treatment pursuant to s. 394.467.
- Section 2. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 394.4598, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

394.4598 Guardian advocate.--

(1) The administrator may petition the court for the appointment of a guardian advocate based upon the opinion of a psychiatrist that the patient is incompetent to consent to treatment. If the court finds that a patient is incompetent to consent to treatment and has not been adjudicated incapacitated and a guardian with the authority to consent to mental health treatment appointed, it shall appoint a guardian advocate. The patient has the right to have an attorney represent him or her at the hearing. If the person is indigent, the court shall



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appoint the office of the public defender to represent him or her at the hearing. The patient has the right to testify, cross-examine witnesses, and present witnesses. The proceeding shall be recorded either electronically or stenographically, and testimony shall be provided under oath. One of the professionals authorized to give an opinion in support of a petition for involuntary placement, as described in s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.394.466 or s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.394.466 or s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.394.466 or s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.394.466 or s.394.466 or <a href="mailto:s.

(7) The guardian advocate shall be discharged when the patient is discharged from an order for involuntary inpatient or outpatient placement or as provided in s. 394.466(6)(d) a receiving or treatment facility to the community or when the patient is transferred from involuntary to voluntary status. The court or a hearing officer shall consider the competence of the patient pursuant to subsection (1) and may consider an involuntarily placed patient's competence to consent to treatment at any hearing. Upon sufficient evidence, the court may restore, or the hearing officer may recommend that the court restore, the patient's competence. A copy of the order restoring competence or the certificate of discharge containing the

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restoration of competence shall be provided to the patient and the guardian advocate.

Section 3. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (3) of section 394.4615, Florida Statutes, to read:

394.4615 Clinical records; confidentiality.--

- (3) Information from the clinical record may be released when:
- (c) It is necessary to determine whether a person meets the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement pursuant to s. 394.466. In such circumstance, the clinical record may be released to the state attorney, public defender or the patient's private legal counsel, the court, and the appropriate mental health professionals.
- Section 4. Subsection (1) and paragraphs (e), (g), and (i) of subsection (2) of section 394.463, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

394.463 Involuntary examination. --

- (1) CRITERIA. -- A person may be taken to a receiving facility for involuntary examination if there is reason to believe that the person has a mental illness he or she is mentally ill and because of his or her mental illness:
- (a)1. The person has refused voluntary examination after conscientious explanation and disclosure of the purpose of the examination; or
- 2. The person is unable to determine for himself or herself whether examination is necessary; and



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(b) <u>Based on the person's current reported or observed</u>
<u>behavior, considering any mental health history, there is a</u>
<u>substantial likelihood that, without care or treatment:</u>

- 1. Without care or treatment, The person will is likely to suffer from neglect or refuse to care for himself or herself; such neglect or refusal will pose poses a real and present threat of substantial harm to his or her well-being; and it is not apparent that such harm may be avoided through the help of willing family members or friends or the provision of other services; or
- 2. There is a substantial likelihood that without care or treatment The person will cause serious bodily harm to himself or herself or others in the near future, as evidenced by recent behavior.
 - (2) INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATION. --
- (e) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall receive and maintain the copies of ex parte orders, involuntary outpatient placement orders issued pursuant to s. 394.466, or involuntary inpatient placement orders issued pursuant to s. 394.467, professional certificates, and law enforcement officers' reports. These documents shall be considered part of the clinical record, governed by the provisions of s. 394.4615. The agency shall prepare annual reports analyzing the data obtained from these documents, without information identifying patients, and shall provide copies of reports to the department, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the minority leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives.



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A person for whom an involuntary examination has been initiated who is being evaluated or treated at a hospital for an emergency medical condition specified in s. 395.002 must be examined by a receiving facility within 72 hours. The 72-hour period begins when the patient arrives at the hospital and ceases when the attending physician documents that the patient has an emergency medical condition. If the patient is examined at a hospital providing emergency medical services by a professional qualified to perform an involuntary examination and is found as a result of that examination not to meet the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement pursuant to s. 394.466(1) or involuntary inpatient placement pursuant to s. 394.467(1), the patient may be offered voluntary placement, if appropriate, or released directly from the hospital providing emergency medical services. The finding by the professional that the patient has been examined and does not meet the criteria for involuntary inpatient placement or involuntary outpatient placement must be entered into the patient's clinical record. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to prevent a hospital providing emergency medical services from appropriately transferring a patient to another hospital prior to stabilization, provided the requirements of s. 395.1041(3)(c) have been met.

(i) Within the 72-hour examination period or, if the 72 hours ends on a weekend or holiday, no later than the next working day thereafter, one of the following actions must be taken, based on the individual needs of the patient:



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1. The patient shall be released, unless he or she is charged with a crime, in which case the patient shall be returned to the custody of a law enforcement officer;

- 2. The patient shall be released, subject to the provisions of subparagraph 1., for <u>voluntary</u> outpatient treatment;
- 3. The patient, unless he or she is charged with a crime, shall be asked to give express and informed consent to placement as a voluntary patient, and, if such consent is given, the patient shall be admitted as a voluntary patient; or
- 4. A petition for involuntary <u>inpatient placement or a</u>

 <u>petition for involuntary outpatient</u> placement shall be filed in

 the appropriate court by the <u>petitioner delineated in s.</u>

 <u>394.466(3)(a)</u> <u>facility administrator</u> when treatment is deemed

 necessary; in which case, the least restrictive treatment

 consistent with the optimum improvement of the patient's

 condition shall be made available.
- Section 5. Section 394.466, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
 - 394.466 Involuntary outpatient placement.--
 - (1) CRITERIA FOR INVOLUNTARY OUTPATIENT PLACEMENT.--
- (a) A person may be ordered to involuntary outpatient placement upon a finding of the court that, by clear and convincing evidence:
 - 1. The person is 18 years of age or older.
 - 2. The person has a mental illness.

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3. The person is unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision, based on a clinical determination.

- 4. The person has a history of lack of compliance with treatment for mental illness.
 - 5. The person has:
- a. At least twice within the last 36 months, been admitted for examination or placement in a receiving or treatment facility as defined in s. 394.455 or received mental health services in a forensic or correctional facility. The 36-month period does not include any period during which the person was admitted or incarcerated immediately preceding the filing of the petition and does include acts of noncompliance with the treatment and the current admission for consideration; or
- b. Engaged in one or more acts of serious violent behavior toward himself or herself or others or engaged in attempts at serious bodily harm to himself or herself or others within the last 36 months. The 36-month period does not include any period in which the person was admitted or incarcerated immediately preceding the filing of the petition and does include acts of violence occurring during the admission or incarceration.
- 6. The person is, as a result of his or her mental illness, unlikely to voluntarily participate in the recommended treatment pursuant to the treatment plan.
- 7. In view of the person's treatment history and current behavior, the person is in need of involuntary outpatient placement in order to prevent a relapse or deterioration which would be likely to result in serious bodily harm to himself or



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herself or others, or a substantial harm to his or her wellbeing as defined in s. 394.463(1).

- 8. It is likely that the person will benefit from involuntary outpatient placement.
- 9. All available less restrictive alternatives which would offer an opportunity for improvement of his or her condition have been judged to be inappropriate.
- (b) Each required criteria for involuntary outpatient placement must be alleged in the petition and substantiated by hospitalization or arrest records that shall be attached to the petition or a sworn affidavit that shall be attached to the petition. The petition shall consist of a clinical determination by a qualified professional who shall be required to attend the hearing pursuant to subsection (6). The patient shall be allowed an opportunity to present evidence and testimony at the hearing to refute or rebut said allegations.
 - (2) INVOLUNTARY OUTPATIENT PLACEMENT. --
- (a) A patient may be retained by a receiving facility unless the patient has been stabilized and no longer meets the involuntary examination criteria pursuant to s. 394.463(1), in which case the patient must be placed in outpatient treatment while awaiting the hearing for involuntary outpatient placement upon the recommendation of the administrator of a receiving facility where the patient has been examined and after adherence to the notice and hearing procedures provided in s. 394.4599. The recommendation must be supported by the opinion of a psychiatrist and the second opinion of a clinical psychologist or another psychiatrist, both of whom have personally examined



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the patient within the preceding 72 hours, that the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement are met. However, in counties of less than 50,000 population, if the administrator certifies that no psychiatrist or clinical psychologist is available to provide the second opinion, such second opinion may be provided by a licensed physician with postgraduate training and experience in diagnosis and treatment of mental and nervous disorders or by a psychiatric nurse. Such recommendation shall be entered on an involuntary outpatient placement certificate, which certificate shall authorize the receiving facility to retain the patient pending transfer to involuntary outpatient placement or completion of a hearing.

- (b) In cases in which arrangements can be made, a patient may agree to be examined on an outpatient basis for an involuntary outpatient placement certificate. The certificate must be supported by the opinion of a psychiatrist and the second opinion of a clinical psychologist or another psychiatrist, both of whom have personally examined the patient within the preceding 14 calendar days, that the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement are met. However, in counties of less than 50,000 population, if the psychiatrist certifies that no psychiatrist or clinical psychologist is available to provide the second opinion, such second opinion may be provided by a licensed physician with postgraduate training and experience in diagnosis and treatment of mental and nervous disorders or by a psychiatric nurse.
- (c) If a patient in involuntary inpatient placement meets the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement, the



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administrator of the treatment facility may, prior to expiration of the period during which the treatment facility is authorized to retain the patient, recommend involuntary outpatient placement. The recommendation must be supported by the opinion of a psychiatrist and the second opinion of a clinical psychologist or another psychiatrist, both of whom have personally examined the patient within the preceding 72 hours, that the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement are met. However, in counties of less than 50,000 population, if the administrator certifies that no psychiatrist or clinical psychologist is available to provide the second opinion, such second opinion may be provided by a licensed physician with postgraduate training and experience in diagnosis and treatment of mental and nervous disorders or by a psychiatric nurse. Such recommendation shall be entered on an involuntary outpatient placement certificate.

- (3) PETITION FOR INVOLUNTARY OUTPATIENT PLACEMENT.--
- (a) A petition for involuntary outpatient placement may be filed only when the full range of services that the person needs for mental health treatment and to live and function successfully are available in the patient's local community. The petitioner must certify in a sworn affidavit attached to the petition the comprehensive array of necessary services, the individual patient's needs, and the services that are available in the community. A petition may be filed by:
- 1. The administrator of the facility pursuant to paragraph
 (2)(a);



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2. One of the examining professionals for persons examined on a voluntary outpatient basis pursuant to paragraph (2)(b).

Upon filing, the examining professional shall provide a copy of the petition to the administrator of the receiving facility or designated department representative that will identify the service provider for the involuntary outpatient placement; or

- 3. The administrator of a treatment facility pursuant to paragraph (2)(c). Upon filing, the administrator shall provide a copy of the petition to the administrator of the receiving facility or designated department representative that will identify the service provider for the involuntary outpatient placement.
- (b) The petition for involuntary outpatient placement shall be filed in the county where the patient is located. Upon filing, the clerk of the court shall provide copies to the department, the patient, the patient's guardian or representative, and the state attorney and public defender of the judicial circuit in which the patient is located. No fee shall be charged for the filing of a petition under this paragraph.
- (4) APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL.--Within 1 court working day after the filing of a petition for involuntary outpatient placement, the court shall appoint the public defender to represent the person who is the subject of the petition, unless the person is otherwise represented by counsel. The clerk of the court shall immediately notify the public defender of such appointment. The public defender shall represent the person until the petition is dismissed or the court order expires or

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the patient is discharged from involuntary outpatient placement.

Any attorney representing the patient shall have access to the patient, witnesses, and records relevant to the presentation of the patient's case and shall represent the interests of the patient, regardless of the source of payment to the attorney.

- (5) CONTINUANCE OF HEARING. -- The patient is entitled, with the concurrence of the patient's counsel, to at least one continuance of the hearing. The continuance shall be for a period of up to 4 weeks.
 - (6) HEARING ON INVOLUNTARY OUTPATIENT PLACEMENT. --
- (a)1. The court shall hold the hearing on involuntary outpatient placement within 5 days after the petition is filed, unless a continuance is granted. The hearing shall be held in the county where the patient is located and shall be as convenient to the patient as may be consistent with orderly procedure and shall be conducted in physical settings not likely to be injurious to the patient's condition. The state attorney for the circuit in which the patient is located shall represent the state, rather than the petitioner, as the real party in interest in the proceeding.
- 2. The court may appoint a master to preside at the hearing. One of the professionals who executed the involuntary outpatient placement certificate shall be a witness. The patient and the patient's guardian or representative shall be informed by the court of the right to an independent expert examination. If the patient cannot afford such an examination, the court shall provide for one. The independent expert's report shall be confidential and not discoverable, unless the expert is to be



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called as a witness for the patient at the hearing. The court shall allow testimony from individuals, including family members, deemed by the court to be relevant under the law of this state, regarding the person's prior history, and how that prior history relates to the person's current condition. The testimony in the hearing must be given under oath and the proceedings must be recorded. The patient may refuse to testify at the hearing.

- (b)1. If the court concludes that the patient meets the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement pursuant to subsection (1), the court shall issue an order for involuntary outpatient placement. The court order shall be for a period of up to 6 months. The service provider shall discharge a patient any time the patient no longer meets the criteria for involuntary placement.
- 2. The administrator of a receiving facility or designated department representative shall identify the service provider that will have primary responsibility for service provision under the order. The service provider shall prepare a written proposed treatment plan and submit the plan to the court prior to the hearing for the court's consideration for inclusion in the involuntary outpatient placement order. The treatment plan shall specify the nature and extent of the patient's mental illness. The treatment plan may include provisions for case management, intensive case management, assertive community treatment, or a program for assertive community treatment. The treatment plan may also require that the patient make use of a service provider to supply any of the following categories of



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services to the individual: medication, periodic urinalysis to determine compliance with treatment, individual or group therapy, day or partial day programming activities, educational and vocational training or activities, alcohol or substance abuse treatment and counseling and periodic tests for the presence of alcohol or illegal drugs for persons with a history of alcohol or substance abuse, supervision of living arrangements, and any other services prescribed to treat the person's mental illness and to assist the person in living and functioning in the community or to attempt to prevent a relapse or deterioration. The service provider shall certify to the court in the treatment plan that the proposed services are currently available and that the service provider agrees to provide those services. Service providers may select and provide supervision to other individuals not enumerated in this subparagraph to implement specific aspects of the treatment plan, such as medication monitoring. The services in the treatment plan shall be deemed to be clinically appropriate by a physician, clinical psychologist, psychiatric nurse, or clinical social worker who consults with, or is employed or contracted by, the service provider. The court shall not order the department or the service provider to provide services if the program or service is not available in the patient's local community or there is no space available in the program or service for the patient or if funding is not available for the program or service. A copy of the order shall be sent to the Agency for Health Care Administration. After the placement order is issued, the service provider and the patient can modify



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provisions of the treatment plan. For any material modification of the provisions of the treatment plan, the service provider shall send notice of the modification to the court. Any material modification of the provisions of the treatment plan that are contested by the patient must be approved by the court.

- 3. When, in the clinical judgment of a physician, the patient has failed or refused to comply with the treatment ordered by the court, efforts were made to solicit compliance, and such patient may meet the criteria for involuntary examination, a person may be brought to a receiving facility pursuant to s. 394.463. If, after examination, the patient does not meet the criteria for involuntary inpatient placement pursuant to s. 394.467, the patient must be discharged from the receiving facility. The service provider must determine whether modifications should be made to the existing treatment plan and attempt to continue to engage the patient in treatment. For any material modification of the provisions of the treatment plan to which the patient or, if appointed, the patient's guardian advocate does agree, the service provider shall send notice of the modification to the court. Any material modification of the provisions of the treatment plan that are contested by the patient or, if appointed, the patient's guardian advocate must be approved by the court.
- (c) If, at any time prior to the conclusion of the initial hearing on involuntary outpatient placement, it appears to the court that the person does not meet the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement under this section but instead meets the criteria for involuntary inpatient placement, the court may



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order the person admitted for involuntary inpatient placement pursuant to s. 394.467. If the person instead meets the criteria for involuntary assessment, protective custody, or involuntary admission pursuant to s. 397.675, the court may order the person to be admitted for involuntary assessment for a period of 5 days pursuant to s. 397.6811. Thereafter, all proceedings shall be governed by chapter 397.

- (d) At the hearing on involuntary outpatient placement, the court shall consider testimony and evidence regarding the patient's competence to consent to treatment. If the court finds that the patient is incompetent to consent to treatment, the court shall appoint a guardian advocate as provided in s.

 394.4598 from a list of qualified and available guardian advocates submitted to the court with the petition. The guardian advocate's role shall be to monitor the patient's care to ensure that the patient's rights are protected. The guardian advocate is immune from liability under this provision. If the patient, the patient's guardian advocate, and the service provider agree that the guardian advocate is no longer needed because the person is competent, the guardian advocate may be discharged.
- (e) The administrator of the receiving facility or designated department representative shall provide a copy of the court order and adequate documentation of a patient's mental illness to the service provider for involuntary outpatient placement. Such documentation shall include any advance directives made by the patient, a psychiatric evaluation of the patient, and any evaluations of the patient performed by a clinical psychologist or a clinical social worker.



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(7) PROCEDURE FOR CONTINUED INVOLUNTARY OUTPATIENT
PLACEMENT.--

- (a) If the person continues to meet the criteria for involuntary outpatient placement, the service provider shall, prior to the expiration of the period during which the treatment is ordered for the person, file in the circuit court a continued involuntary outpatient placement certificate which shall be accompanied by a statement from the person's physician or clinical psychologist justifying the request, a brief description of the patient's treatment during the time he or she was involuntarily placed, and an individualized plan of continued treatment.
- (b) Within 1 court working day after the filing of a petition for continued involuntary outpatient placement, the court shall appoint the public defender to represent the person who is the subject of the petition, unless the person is otherwise represented by counsel. The clerk of the court shall immediately notify the public defender of such appointment. The public defender shall represent the person until the petition is dismissed, the court order expires, or the patient is discharged from involuntary outpatient placement. Any attorney representing the patient shall have access to the patient, witnesses, and records relevant to the presentation of the patient's case and shall represent the interests of the patient, regardless of the source of payment to the attorney.
- (c) Hearings on petitions for continued involuntary outpatient placement shall be before the circuit court. The court may appoint a master to preside at the hearing. The

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procedures for obtaining an order pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with the provisions of subsection (6), except that the time period included in subparagraph (1)(a)5. shall not apply in determining the appropriateness of additional periods of involuntary outpatient placement.

- (d) Notice of the hearing shall be provided as set forth in s. 394.4599.
- (e) The same procedure shall be repeated prior to the expiration of each additional period the patient is placed in treatment.
- (f) If the patient has been previously found incompetent to consent to treatment, the court shall consider testimony and evidence regarding the patient's competence. If the court finds evidence that the patient has become competent to consent to treatment, the court may order that any guardian advocate previously appointed be discharged.
- Section 6. Section 394.467, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 394.467 Involuntary inpatient placement.--
- (1) CRITERIA. -- A person may be involuntarily placed in involuntary inpatient placement for treatment upon a finding of the court by clear and convincing evidence that:
- (a) He or she is mentally ill and because of his or her mental illness:
- 1.a. He or she has refused voluntary placement for treatment after sufficient and conscientious explanation and disclosure of the purpose of placement for treatment; or



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b. He or she is unable to determine for himself or herself whether placement is necessary; and

- 2.a. He or she is manifestly incapable of surviving alone or with the help of willing and responsible family or friends, including available alternative services, and, without treatment, is likely to suffer from neglect or refuse to care for himself or herself, and such neglect or refusal poses a real and present threat of substantial harm to his or her well-being; or
- b. There is substantial likelihood that in the near future he or she will inflict serious bodily harm on himself or herself or another person, as evidenced by recent behavior causing, attempting, or threatening such harm; and
- (b) All available less restrictive treatment alternatives which would offer an opportunity for improvement of his or her condition have been judged to be inappropriate.
- retained by a receiving facility or involuntarily placed in a treatment facility upon the recommendation of the administrator of a receiving facility where the patient has been examined and after adherence to the notice and hearing procedures provided in s. 394.4599. The recommendation must be supported by the opinion of a psychiatrist and the second opinion of a clinical psychologist or another psychiatrist, both of whom have personally examined the patient within the preceding 72 hours, that the criteria for involuntary inpatient placement are met. However, in counties of less than 50,000 population, if the administrator certifies that no psychiatrist or clinical



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psychologist is available to provide the second opinion, such second opinion may be provided by a licensed physician with postgraduate training and experience in diagnosis and treatment of mental and nervous disorders or by a psychiatric nurse. Such recommendation shall be entered on an involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement certificate, which certificate shall authorize the receiving facility to retain the patient pending transfer to a treatment facility or completion of a hearing.

- (3) PETITION FOR INVOLUNTARY <u>INPATIENT</u> PLACEMENT.--The administrator of the facility shall file a petition for involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement in the court in the county where the patient is located. Upon filing, the clerk of the court shall provide copies to the department, the patient, the patient's guardian or representative, and the state attorney and public defender of the judicial circuit in which the patient is located. No fee shall be charged for the filing of a petition under this subsection.
- after the filing of a petition for involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement, the court shall appoint the public defender to represent the person who is the subject of the petition, unless the person is otherwise represented by counsel. The clerk of the court shall immediately notify the public defender of such appointment. Any attorney representing the patient shall have access to the patient, witnesses, and records relevant to the presentation of the patient's case and shall represent the interests of the patient, regardless of the source of payment to the attorney.



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(5) CONTINUANCE OF HEARING.--The patient is entitled, with the concurrence of the patient's counsel, to at least one continuance of the hearing. The continuance shall be for a period of up to 4 weeks.

- (6) HEARING ON INVOLUNTARY INPATIENT PLACEMENT.--
- inpatient placement within 5 days, unless a continuance is granted. The hearing shall be held in the county where the patient is located and shall be as convenient to the patient as may be consistent with orderly procedure and shall be conducted in physical settings not likely to be injurious to the patient's condition. If the court finds that the patient's attendance at the hearing is not consistent with the best interests of the patient, and the patient's counsel does not object, the court may waive the presence of the patient from all or any portion of the hearing. The state attorney for the circuit in which the patient is located shall represent the state, rather than the petitioning facility administrator, as the real party in interest in the proceeding.
- 2. The court may appoint a master to preside at the hearing. One of the professionals who executed the involuntary inpatient placement certificate shall be a witness. The patient and the patient's guardian or representative shall be informed by the court of the right to an independent expert examination. If the patient cannot afford such an examination, the court shall provide for one. The independent expert's report shall be confidential and not discoverable, unless the expert is to be called as a witness for the patient at the hearing. The



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testimony in the hearing must be given under oath, and the proceedings must be recorded. The patient may refuse to testify at the hearing.

- (b) If the court concludes that the patient meets the criteria for involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement, it shall order that the patient be transferred to a treatment facility or, if the patient is at a treatment facility, that the patient be retained there or be treated at any other appropriate receiving or treatment facility, or that the patient receive services from a receiving or treatment facility, on an involuntary basis, for a period of up to 6 months. The order shall specify the nature and extent of the patient's mental illness. The facility shall discharge a patient any time the patient no longer meets the criteria for involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement, unless the patient has transferred to voluntary status.
- (c) If at any time prior to the conclusion of the hearing on involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement it appears to the court that the person does not meet the criteria for involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement under this <u>section chapter</u>, but <u>instead meets the</u> <u>criteria for involuntary outpatient placement</u>, the court may <u>order the person evaluated for involuntary outpatient placement pursuant to s. 394.466. The petition and hearing procedures set <u>forth in s. 394.466 shall apply</u>. If the <u>person</u> instead meets the criteria for involuntary assessment, protective custody, or involuntary admission pursuant to s. 397.675, then the court may order the person to be admitted for involuntary assessment for a period of 5 days pursuant to s. 397.6811. Thereafter, all proceedings shall be governed by chapter 397.</u>



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(d) At the hearing on involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement, the court shall consider testimony and evidence regarding the patient's competence to consent to treatment. If the court finds that the patient is incompetent to consent to treatment, it shall appoint a guardian advocate as provided in s. 394.4598.

- (e) The administrator of the receiving facility shall provide a copy of the court order and adequate documentation of a patient's mental illness to the administrator of a treatment facility whenever a patient is ordered for involuntary inpatient placement, whether by civil or criminal court. Such documentation shall include any advance directives made by the patient, a psychiatric evaluation of the patient, and any evaluations of the patient performed by a clinical psychologist or a clinical social worker. The administrator of a treatment facility may refuse admission to any patient directed to its facilities on an involuntary basis, whether by civil or criminal court order, who is not accompanied at the same time by adequate orders and documentation.
- (7) PROCEDURE FOR CONTINUED INVOLUNTARY <u>INPATIENT</u>
 PLACEMENT.--
- (a) Hearings on petitions for continued involuntary inpatient placement shall be administrative hearings and shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of s. 120.57(1), except that any order entered by the hearing officer shall be final and subject to judicial review in accordance with s. 120.68. Orders concerning patients committed after successfully pleading not guilty by reason of insanity shall be governed by the provisions of s. 916.15.



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- If the patient continues to meet the criteria for involuntary inpatient placement, the administrator shall, prior to the expiration of the period during which the treatment facility is authorized to retain the patient, file a petition requesting authorization for continued involuntary inpatient placement. The request shall be accompanied by a statement from the patient's physician or clinical psychologist justifying the request, a brief description of the patient's treatment during the time he or she was involuntarily placed, and an individualized plan of continued treatment. Notice of the hearing shall be provided as set forth in s. 394.4599. If at the hearing the hearing officer finds that attendance at the hearing is not consistent with the best interests of the patient, the hearing officer may waive the presence of the patient from all or any portion of the hearing, unless the patient, through counsel, objects to the waiver of presence. The testimony in the hearing must be under oath, and the proceedings must be recorded.
- (c) Unless the patient is otherwise represented or is ineligible, he or she shall be represented at the hearing on the petition for continued involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement by the public defender of the circuit in which the facility is located.
- (d) If at a hearing it is shown that the patient continues to meet the criteria for involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement, the administrative law judge shall sign the order for continued involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement for a period not to exceed 6 months. The same procedure shall be repeated prior to the expiration of each additional period the patient is retained.



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(e) If continued involuntary <u>inpatient</u> placement is necessary for a patient admitted while serving a criminal sentence, but whose sentence is about to expire, or for a patient involuntarily placed while a minor but who is about to reach the age of 18, the administrator shall petition the administrative law judge for an order authorizing continued involuntary inpatient placement.

- (f) If the patient has been previously found incompetent to consent to treatment, the hearing officer shall consider testimony and evidence regarding the patient's competence. If the hearing officer finds evidence that the patient is now competent to consent to treatment, the hearing officer may issue a recommended order to the court that found the patient incompetent to consent to treatment that the patient's competence be restored and that any guardian advocate previously appointed be discharged.
- (8) RETURN OF PATIENTS.--When a patient at a treatment facility leaves the facility without authorization, the administrator may authorize a search for the patient and the return of the patient to the facility. The administrator may request the assistance of a law enforcement agency in the search for and return of the patient.

Section 7. <u>Involuntary Outpatient Placement Implementation</u> Task Force.--

(1) The Involuntary Outpatient Placement Implementation

Task Force is established to develop a plan for implementation
of the involuntary outpatient placement procedures established
in this act. The task force shall include a representative from



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each of the following entities, to be designated by their respective organizations no later than July 1, 2003: the Florida Sheriffs Association, the Florida Police Chiefs Association, the Florida Public Defender Association, Inc., the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, the Florida Association of Court Clerks, the Florida Association of Counties, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Florida Council for Community Mental Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration. Additionally, a member of the Senate shall be designated by the President of the Senate, a member of the House of Representatives shall be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a representative of the Executive Office of the Governor shall be designated by the Governor, and a circuit judge shall be designated by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to serve on the task force. The representative for the Florida Sheriffs Association and the circuit judge shall be designated by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court and shall serve as co-chairs of the task force. The task force should solicit and receive input from interested parties.

(2) The task force shall be convened no later than August 1, 2003. Staff support for the initial meeting shall be provided by staff of the House Committee on the Future of Florida's Families and the Senate Committee on Children and Families. The co-chairs shall facilitate the meetings and make appropriate arrangements for staff support of subsequent meetings and preparation of an implementation plan and report. Expenses associated with task force meetings and work products shall be the responsibility of each member's organization.



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(3) The task force shall prepare an implementation plan and report that identifies issues and proposed strategies for implementation of court-ordered mental health treatment on an outpatient basis. The task force shall also address issues, including, but not limited to, recommendations for an evaluation process to determine the effectiveness of involuntary outpatient placement and proposed technical amendments to the Florida Statutes to improve implementation, if necessary and appropriate. The implementation plan and report must recommend a process to collect data that reflects the impact of involuntary outpatient placement on the courts, state attorneys, public defenders, clerks of court, law enforcement, jails, and the mental health treatment system. The report must be submitted by December 1, 2003, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court.

Section 8. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

Section 9. Except as otherwise provided herein, this act shall take effect October 1, 2004.