

By the Committee on Children and Families; and Senator Bennett

300-1889-03

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to domestic violence centers;
 3 amending ss. 39.903 and 39.905, F.S.; removing
 4 a requirement that the Department of Children
 5 and Family Services approve or reject
 6 applications for funding received from domestic
 7 violence centers; requiring the statewide
 8 association under contract with the department
 9 to provide technical assistance to certified
 10 domestic violence centers and to administer and
 11 evaluate the services provided by the centers;
 12 requiring the association to approve or reject
 13 applications for funding; requiring that funds
 14 be distributed to certified domestic violence
 15 centers according to a formula approved by the
 16 department; providing requirements for
 17 contracts between the statewide association and
 18 certified domestic violence centers; providing
 19 an effective date.

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

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 23 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and
 24 subsection (7) of section 39.903, Florida Statutes, are
 25 amended to read:

26 39.903 Duties and functions of the department with
 27 respect to domestic violence.--

28 (1) The department shall:

29 (c) Receive and approve or reject applications for
 30 certification of domestic violence centers, and ~~receive and~~
 31 ~~approve or reject applications for funding of domestic~~

1 ~~violence centers. When approving funding for a newly certified~~
2 ~~domestic violence center, the department shall make every~~
3 ~~effort to minimize any adverse economic impact on existing~~
4 ~~certified centers or services provided within the same~~
5 ~~district. In order to minimize duplication of services, the~~
6 ~~department shall make every effort to encourage subcontracting~~
7 ~~relationships with existing centers within the district. If~~
8 ~~any of the required services are exempted from certification~~
9 ~~by the department under s. 39.905(1)(c), the center shall not~~
10 ~~receive funding for those services.~~

11 (7) The department shall contract with a statewide
12 association whose primary purpose is to represent and provide
13 technical assistance to certified domestic violence centers.
14 This association shall implement, administer, and evaluate all
15 services provided by the certified centers. The association
16 shall receive and approve or reject applications for funding
17 of certified domestic violence centers. When approving funding
18 for a newly certified domestic violence center, the
19 association shall make every effort to minimize any adverse
20 economic impact on existing certified centers or services
21 provided within the same service area. In order to minimize
22 duplication of services, the association shall make every
23 effort to encourage subcontracting relationships with existing
24 centers within the same service area. In distributing funds
25 allocated by the Legislature for certified domestic violence
26 centers, the association shall use a formula approved by the
27 department as specified in s. 39.905(7)(a).~~receive 2 percent~~
28 ~~of the Domestic Violence Trust Fund for this purpose.~~

29 Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 39.905, Florida
30 Statutes, is amended to read:

31 39.905 Domestic violence centers.--

1 (7)(a) All funds collected and appropriated to the
2 domestic violence program for certified domestic violence
3 centers shall be distributed annually ~~by the department to~~
4 ~~each district~~ according to an allocation formula approved
5 ~~determined~~ by the department. In developing the formula, the
6 factors of department shall consider population, the a rural
7 characteristics and geographical area ~~factor~~, and the
8 incidence of domestic violence shall be considered.

9 (b) A contract between the statewide association a
10 ~~district~~ and a certified domestic violence center shall
11 contain provisions assuring the availability and geographic
12 accessibility of services throughout the district. For this
13 purpose, a center may distribute funds through subcontracts or
14 to center satellites, provided such arrangements and any
15 subcontracts are approved by the statewide association
16 ~~district~~.

17 Section 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2004.

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19 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
20 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
21 Senate Bill 1216

22 Shifts the responsibility for receiving and approving or
23 rejecting the domestic violence centers' applications for
24 funding from the department to the association (or Florida
Coalition Against Domestic Violence), including the
consideration of funding of newly created centers.

25 Changes the references to department's role in contracting
26 with the domestic violence centers to the association's role.

27 Adds implementation of services to the required
28 responsibilities of the association.