



CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Judiciary recommends the following:

Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to trust funds; creating the Child Advocacy Trust Fund within the Department of Children and Family Services; providing for sources of funds and purposes; requiring the development of an allocation methodology for distributing funds deposited in the trust fund; providing for funds to establish children's advocacy centers; providing for an annual carryforward of funds; providing for future legislative review and termination or re-creation of the trust fund; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Child Advocacy Trust Fund.--

(1)(a) The Child Advocacy Trust Fund is created within the Department of Children and Family Services for the purpose of receiving funds collected from the additional court cost imposed in cases of certain crimes against minors under s. 938.10,



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29 Florida Statutes. Funds shall be appropriated to the Department
30 of Children and Family Services as a grants-in-aid for the
31 specific purpose of funding children's advocacy centers. Funds
32 shall be disbursed to the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy
33 Centers, Inc., as established under s. 39.3035, Florida
34 Statutes, for the purpose of providing community-based services
35 that augment, but that do not duplicate, services provided by
36 state agencies.

37 (b) The Board of Directors of the Florida Network of
38 Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., shall retain 10 percent of
39 all revenues collected for network expenditures and to provide
40 funds to match local contributions in communities establishing
41 children's advocacy centers. The board of directors shall also
42 develop funding criteria and an allocation methodology that
43 ensures an equitable distribution of remaining funds among
44 network participants. The criteria and methodologies shall take
45 into account factors that include, but need not be limited to,
46 the center's accreditation status with respect to the National
47 Children's Alliance, the number of clients served, and the
48 population of the area being served by the children's advocacy
49 center.

50 (2) Notwithstanding s. 216.301, Florida Statutes, and
51 pursuant to s. 216.351, Florida Statutes, any balance in the
52 trust fund at the end of any fiscal year shall remain in the
53 trust fund at the end of the year and shall be available for
54 carrying out the purposes of the trust fund.

55 (3) Pursuant to s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State
56 Constitution, the trust fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be



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57 | terminated on July 1, 2007. Before its scheduled termination,
58 | the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1)
59 | and (2), Florida Statutes.

60 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, if
61 | House Bill 1533 or similar legislation is adopted in the same
62 | legislative session, or an extension thereof, and becomes law.