A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the juvenile justice system; amending s. 985.02, F.S.; requiring gender-specific programming within the Department of Juvenile Justice for children in this state; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct an analysis of gender-specific programs in the Department of Juvenile Justice; providing certain gender-specific information to be included in the analysis; reenacting s. 985.3045(1) and (3), F.S., relating to prevention service programs, for the purpose of incorporating the amendment to s. 985.02, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 985.02, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to said section, to read:

985.02 Legislative intent for the juvenile justice system.--

- (1) GENERAL PROTECTIONS FOR CHILDREN. -- It is a purpose of the Legislature that the children of this state be provided with the following protections:
  - (a) Protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
  - (b) A permanent and stable home.
- (c) A safe and nurturing environment which will preserve a sense of personal dignity and integrity.
  - (d) Adequate nutrition, shelter, and clothing.

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(e) Effective treatment to address physical, social, and emotional needs, regardless of geographical location.

- (f) Equal opportunity and access to quality and effective education, which will meet the individual needs of each child, and to recreation and other community resources to develop individual abilities.
  - (g) Access to preventive services.

- (h) An independent, trained advocate when intervention is necessary, and a skilled guardian or caretaker in a safe environment when alternative placement is necessary.
- (i) Gender-specific programming and gender-specific program models and services that comprehensively address the needs of a targeted gender group.
  - (8) GENDER-SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING. --
- (a) The Legislature finds that the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation needs of youth served by the juvenile justice system are gender-specific.
- (b) Gender-specific programming refers to unique program models and services that comprehensively address the needs of a targeted gender group. Gender-specific services require the adherence to the principle of equity to ensure that the different interests of young women and men are recognized and varying needs are met, with equality as the desired outcome. Gender-specific programming focuses on the differences between young females' and young males' roles and responsibilities, positions in society, access to and use of resources, and social codes governing behavior. Gender-specific programs increase the effectiveness of programs by making interventions more appropriate to the specific needs of young women and men and

ensuring that these programs do not unknowingly create,
maintain, or reinforce gender roles or relations that may be
damaging.

- (c) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall conduct an analysis of programs for young females within the Department of Juvenile Justice. The analysis shall address the nature of young female offenders in this state, the percentage of young females who are incarcerated in the juvenile justice system for status offenses and violations of probation, and whether these young females could be better served in less costly community-based programs. In addition, the review shall analyze whether existing juvenile justice programs are designed to meet the gender-specific needs of young females and an analysis of the true cost of providing gender-specific services to young females.
- Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment to section 985.02, Florida Statutes, in references thereto, subsections (1) and (3) of section 985.3045, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:
- 985.3045 Prevention service program; monitoring; report; uniform performance measures.--
- (1) The department's prevention service program shall monitor all state-funded programs, grants, appropriations, or activities that are designed to prevent juvenile crime, delinquency, gang membership, or status offense behaviors and all state-funded programs, grants, appropriations, or activities that are designed to prevent a child from becoming a "child in need of services," as defined in chapter 984, in order to inform the Governor and the Legislature concerning efforts designed to

further the policy of the state concerning juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, consistent with ss. 984.02 and 985.02.

- (3) The department shall expend funds related to the prevention of juvenile delinquency in a manner consistent with the policies expressed in ss. 984.02 and 985.02. The department shall expend said funds in a manner that maximizes public accountability and ensures the documentation of outcomes.
- (a) All entities that receive or use state moneys to fund juvenile delinquency prevention services through contracts or grants with the department shall design the programs providing such services to further one or more of the strategies specified in paragraphs (2)(a)-(d).
- (b) The department shall develop an outcome measure for each program strategy specified in paragraphs (2)(a)-(d) that logically relates to the risk factor addressed by the strategy.
- (c) All entities that receive or use state moneys to fund the juvenile delinquency prevention services through contracts or grants with the department shall, as a condition of receipt of state funds, provide the department with personal demographic information concerning all participants in the service sufficient to allow the department to verify criminal or delinquent history information, school attendance or academic information, employment information, or other requested performance information.
  - Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.