

By the Committee on Children and Families; and Senator Webster

300-2422-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to mental health services;
3 amending s. 394.9084, F.S.; providing for a
4 client-directed and choice-based pilot program;
5 authorizing the expansion of the project;
6 authorizing the development and implementation
7 of a pilot project for children; requiring the
8 Department of Children and Family Services to
9 develop procedures for operating these pilot
10 projects; requiring an independent evaluation
11 of the projects; specifying areas that must be
12 addressed as a part of the evaluation;
13 requiring reports to the Legislature; providing
14 an effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Section 394.9084, Florida Statutes, is
19 amended to read:

20 394.9084 Pilot project; client-directed and
21 choice-based adult mental health services.--

22 (1) ~~The department of Children and Family Services~~
23 shall conduct ~~develop~~ a client-directed and choice-based pilot
24 project in district 4 to provide mental health treatment and
25 support services to adults who have a serious and persistent
26 mental illness. The project shall test a payment model in
27 which each client controls the money that is available for
28 that client's mental health treatment and support services.

29 (2) The department may expand the client-directed and
30 choice-based pilot project to one additional district to be
31 selected by the department. The department may also develop

1 and implement a pilot project in one district to provide
2 mental health treatment and support services for children who
3 live at home. If established, any staff who work with children
4 must be screened under s. 435.04. The administrative costs for
5 conducting the projects may not be paid from funds
6 appropriated for direct client services. Prior to expanding
7 the project beyond district 4, the department shall establish
8 procedures applicable for the project sites which include:

9 (a) A description of the project and its purpose;

10 (b) The eligibility requirements for project
11 participants;

12 (c) The scope of services for which project funding
13 may be used, including services provided by the administrative
14 entity, services provided by a behavioral healthcare provider,
15 and the goods and services for recovery-related goals; and

16 (d) The eligibility requirements and responsibilities
17 of the administrative entity, including all services to be
18 provided by the entity, the responsibilities of staff employed
19 or under contract with the entity for the pilot project,
20 financial management and recordkeeping requirements, and
21 documentations requirements relating to client participation
22 in the project.

23 (3) The ~~projects~~ project shall be evaluated by an
24 independent entity whose evaluation must include an assessment
25 of:

26 (a) The criteria for selecting ~~adult mental health~~
27 clients ~~who are with serious mental illness~~ eligible for
28 participation in the ~~projects~~ project.

29 (b) The duties and responsibilities of the
30 administrative entity and the staff who are employed by or
31 under contract for the ~~projects~~ care coordinator.

1 (c) The accessibility and quality of services provided
2 under the projects by available community-based providers
3 selected by the client, compared to ~~those~~ services that are
4 available without the projects ~~project~~.

5 (d) The input by the clients in the development of
6 treatment plans compared to other clients not participating in
7 the projects ~~project~~.

8 (e) The achievement of individual treatment goals or
9 outcome measures established for each client participating in
10 the projects ~~project~~ compared to other mental health clients.

11 (f) Any demonstrated improvements and ~~or~~ cost savings
12 in the delivery of community-based mental health treatment and
13 support services, including an explanation of the analyses
14 used in determining cost savings.

15 (g) All monitoring and oversight conducted by the
16 Department of Children and Family Services or the Agency for
17 Health Care Administration.

18 (h) Any existing or appointed local advisory group
19 assisting in the design and implementation of the projects
20 ~~project~~.

21 (i) The implementation status of the project in each
22 district and identification of any problems with
23 implementation.

24 (j) Any adverse outcomes resulting from the projects,
25 including conflicts of interest.

26
27 A report of the independent evaluation of these projects which
28 addresses the findings and recommendations of the evaluation
29 shall be provided to the appropriate legislative substantive
30 committees and the department. A preliminary report is due by
31 December 31, 2005, and the final report is due by December 31,

1 2006, including the elements specified in this subsection and
2 recommendations concerning whether and how to expand the
3 client-directed and choice-based pilot project and the pilot
4 project for children.

5 (4) The department shall work with the agency and the
6 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of
7 Education to determine the feasibility and cost effectiveness
8 of obtaining federal waivers to support the expansion of the
9 client-directed and choice-based pilot project.

10 Recommendations relating to the use of waiver funding which
11 address any requirements relating to eligibility for funding
12 and the management of the funding must be included in the
13 report to the Legislature.

14 (5) The department shall submit reports to the
15 Legislature reflecting the progress of the client-directed and
16 choice-based project and the pilot project for children. At a
17 minimum, the reports must include how project funds are
18 allocated and managed for each district, project staffing, the
19 number of participants in the project, the number of
20 participants who leave the project and why they leave, the
21 percentage of service plan and recovery plan goals that are
22 met by program participants, and how recommendations from the
23 annual independent evaluation are incorporated into practice.
24 The first report is due to the appropriate legislative
25 committees by December 31, 2005, and a final report is due by
26 December 31, 2006.

27 (6) This section expires July 1, 2007.

28 ~~(2) The Department of Children and Family Services~~
29 ~~shall submit a report concerning the progress of the project~~
30 ~~to the appropriate legislative committees by December 1, 2002,~~
31 ~~and December 1, 2003.~~

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~~(3) This section expires July 1, 2004.~~

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
Senate Bill 2894

Continues the client-directed and choice-based pilot project in District 4 and authorizes the Department of Children and Families to expand the pilot to one additional district rather than implementing the initiative statewide.

Authorizes the Department of Children and Families to implement a pilot mental health treatment and support services project for children rather than directing the department to do so.

Directs the department to establish procedures for the operation of the pilot projects prior to expanding the projects.

Directs the department to work with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation to explore obtaining federal waivers to support the expansion of the pilot project rather than directing these organizations to implement the waivers statewide.

Modifies requirements for reports to the Legislature from the independent evaluator and the department.

Extends the expiration date of the section governing the pilot projects from July 1, 2004 to July 1, 2007.