

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

36-2023-04

See HB 1817

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to juvenile justice; providing  
3           for a parental involvement pilot project in  
4           Orange County; authorizing the Department of  
5           Juvenile Justice to allow certain parents to  
6           attend and participate in a course of parenting  
7           education classes in lieu of paying certain  
8           required fees associated with the cost of a  
9           child's care or supervision by the department;  
10          limiting such authority to the 2004-2005 fiscal  
11          year and to cases involving orders of the  
12          circuit court in and for Orange County;  
13          authorizing the department to develop a formula  
14          for specifying the number of participation  
15          hours in lieu of fees; requiring the department  
16          to provide notification about the option to  
17          participate in the pilot project; authorizing  
18          the department to contract with a private or  
19          public entity to provide parenting education  
20          classes in certain circumstances; directing the  
21          department to waive fees upon proof by the  
22          parent of successful completion of the course  
23          of parenting education classes; limiting the  
24          amount of fees that may be waived; prohibiting  
25          issuance of any order of the circuit court in  
26          and for Orange County reducing or waiving the  
27          required fees during the 2004-2005 fiscal year;  
28          providing exceptions; requiring the department  
29          to identify measurable outcomes for the pilot  
30          project; requiring a report; providing  
31          applicability; providing that the parent is

1 responsible for costs associated with the  
2 parenting education classes; providing a  
3 definition; providing an effective date.  
4

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
6

7 Section 1. Orange County Parental Involvement Pilot  
8 Project.--

9 (1) In accordance with the provisions of subsection  
10 (4) and for the 2004-2005 fiscal year only, the Department of  
11 Juvenile Justice is authorized to allow any parent who,  
12 pursuant to an order of the circuit court in and for Orange  
13 County, is subject to the provisions of section 985.215(6),  
14 section 985.231(1)(b), or section 985.233(4)(d), Florida  
15 Statutes, relating to the fees associated with the cost of a  
16 child's care or supervision by the department, to attend and  
17 participate in a course of parenting education classes which  
18 is approved by the department in lieu of paying all or a  
19 portion of such fees. The department is authorized to develop  
20 a reasonable and uniform formula for specifying a number of  
21 participation hours in lieu of the \$5 per day fee.

22 (2) The department shall notify parents who, pursuant  
23 to an order of the circuit court in and for Orange County, are  
24 obliged to pay fees associated with the cost of the child's  
25 care or supervision by the department, of the option to  
26 participate in the pilot project by attending and  
27 participating in a course of parenting education classes. The  
28 notification shall include a description of the course  
29 contents and the number of participation hours that the parent  
30 will be required to successfully complete in order to receive  
31 a waiver of such fees pursuant to subsection (4).

1           (a) For any such order issued during the 2004-2005  
2 fiscal year, the department shall provide the notification as  
3 soon as is practicable after the issuance of the order.

4           (b) The department shall make reasonable efforts to  
5 provide the notification to parents who are the subject of  
6 such orders entered prior to the 2004-2005 fiscal year and who  
7 have a current or delinquent obligation to pay the required  
8 fees.

9           (3) If the Department of Juvenile Justice does not  
10 already have such classes in place and available in Orange  
11 County, the department may contract with a private or public  
12 entity in Orange County to provide classes in parenting  
13 education for purposes of the pilot project. The private or  
14 public entity must have appropriate expertise in providing  
15 parenting education.

16           (4) Upon the parent providing proof to the department  
17 of successful completion of the course of parenting education  
18 classes, the department shall waive the costs associated with  
19 the child's care or supervision by the department in  
20 accordance with the formula described in subsection (1).  
21 However, the value of the waiver may not exceed \$450.

22           (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of section  
23 985.215(6), section 985.231(1)(b), or section 985.233(4)(d),  
24 Florida Statutes, during the 2004-2005 fiscal year, no order  
25 shall issue from the circuit court in and for Orange County  
26 purporting to reduce or waive any required fees associated  
27 with the cost of the child's care or supervision by the  
28 department, except as provided in subsection (6).

29           (6)(a) The court may reduce or waive such fees in  
30 circumstances where the court makes a finding on the record  
31 that the parent was the victim of the delinquent act or

1 violation of law for which the child has been placed under the  
2 care or supervision of the department and that the parent is  
3 cooperating or has cooperated with the investigation of the  
4 act or violation.

5 (b) The court may authorize the parent to participate  
6 in a course of parenting education classes in lieu of paying  
7 all or a portion of the required fees, subject to the  
8 provisions of subsection (4). If the parent's obligation to  
9 pay fees exceeds \$450, the court may reduce or waive the  
10 remaining fees in accordance with the provisions of section  
11 985.215(6), section 985.231(1)(b), or section 985.233(4)(d),  
12 Florida Statutes, upon verification by the department that the  
13 parent has successfully completed the course of parenting  
14 education classes.

15 (7) The department shall identify measurable outcomes  
16 for the pilot project, including, but not limited to, the  
17 following:

18 (a) The number of parents who participate in parenting  
19 education classes in lieu of paying the required fees.

20 (b) The number of parents who successfully complete  
21 such classes.

22 (c) Whether any child of a participating parent is  
23 referred to the department during the 2004-2005 fiscal year  
24 subsequent to the referral associated with the parent's  
25 initial participation in the parenting education classes.

26  
27 The department shall report these outcomes, together with the  
28 outcomes of any other measures deemed appropriate, to the  
29 Legislature and Governor by October 1, 2005. The report shall  
30 also indicate the total amount of fees collected pursuant to  
31 sections 985.215(6), 985.231(1)(b), and 985.233(4)(d), Florida

1 Statutes, in Orange County during fiscal years 2003-2004 and  
2 2004-2005.  
3 (8) This section shall not apply if there is a court  
4 order specifically prohibiting participation in lieu of  
5 payment. This section applies to any order or other obligation  
6 for the payment of fees as described in subsection (1) which  
7 is current or delinquent during the 2004-2005 fiscal year. It  
8 shall be the parent's responsibility to bear all costs  
9 associated with the parent's participation in the parenting  
10 education classes. For purposes of this section, the term  
11 "parent" means the mother, father, or legal guardian of a  
12 child.

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