

By Senator Dawson

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to relative caregivers;
amending s. 39.5085, F.S.; providing that
children may be placed in the care of a
relative by either the dependency court or
family court; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
39.5085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.5085 Relative Caregiver Program.--

(1) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting
this section to:

(c) Recognize that permanency in the best interests of
the child can be achieved through a variety of permanency
options, including long-term relative custody, guardianship,
or adoption, by providing additional placement options and
incentives that will achieve permanency and stability for many
children who are otherwise at risk of foster care placement
because of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, but who may
successfully be able to be placed by either the dependency
court or family court in the care of the ~~such~~ relatives.

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

SENATE SUMMARY

Provides that children may be placed in the care of a
relative by either the dependency court or family court.