

By Senator Smith

14-330-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to trust funds; creating the
3 Child Advocacy Trust Fund within the Department
4 of Children and Family Services; providing for
5 sources of funds and purposes; requiring the
6 development of an allocation methodology for
7 distributing funds deposited in the trust fund;
8 providing for funds to establish children's
9 advocacy centers; providing for future
10 legislative review and termination or
11 re-creation of the trust fund; providing a
12 contingent effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. Child Advocacy Trust Fund.--

17 (1)(a) The Child Advocacy Trust Fund is created within
18 the Department of Children and Family Services for the purpose
19 of receiving funds collected from the additional court cost
20 imposed in cases of certain crimes against minors under
21 section 938.10, Florida Statutes. Funds shall be appropriated
22 to the Department of Children and Family Services for the
23 specific purpose of funding children's advocacy centers. Funds
24 shall be disbursed to the Florida Network of Children's
25 Advocacy Centers, Inc., as established under section 39.3035,
26 Florida Statutes, for the purpose of providing community-based
27 services that augment, but that do not duplicate, services
28 provided by state agencies.

29 (b) The Board of Directors of the Florida Network of
30 Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc., shall retain 10 percent of
31 all revenues collected for network expenditures to provide

1 funds to match local contributions in communities establishing
2 children's advocacy centers. The board of directors must
3 develop funding criteria and an allocation methodology that
4 ensures an equitable distribution of remaining funds among
5 network participants. The criteria and methodologies must take
6 into account factors that include, but need not be limited to,
7 the center's accreditation status with respect to the National
8 Children's Alliance, the number of clients served, and the
9 population of the area being served by the children's advocacy
10 center.

11 (2) Pursuant to Section 19(f)(2), Article III of the
12 State Constitution, the trust fund shall, unless terminated
13 sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2008. Before its scheduled
14 termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in
15 section 215.3206(1) and (2), Florida Statutes.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, if
17 Senate Bill ____ or similar legislation is adopted in the same
18 legislative session, or an extension thereof, and becomes law.

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21 SENATE SUMMARY

22 Creates the Child Advocacy Trust Fund within the
23 Department of Children and Family Services. Provides for
24 the source of funds. Specifies that funds generated are
25 to be dispersed to the Florida Network of Children's
26 Advocacy Centers, Inc. Requires that funds generated be
27 used to provide community-based services that augment but
28 do not duplicate any services provided by a state agency.
29 Requires the Board of Directors to develop funding
30 criteria and allocation methodologies to disperse funds.
31 Requires the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy
Centers, Inc., to retain 10 percent of revenues collected
to match local contributions in communities establishing
children's advocacy centers.