A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the testing of inmates for HIV infection in county and municipal detention facilities; amending s. 951.27, F.S.; requiring county and municipal detention facilities to perform an HIV test before an inmate is released if the inmate's HIV status is unknown; providing certain exceptions; requiring county and municipal detention facilities to notify the Department of Health and the county health department where the inmate plans to reside following release if the inmate is HIV positive; requiring the detention facilities to provide special transitional assistance to an inmate who is HIV positive; providing for immunity for complying entities; amending s. 381.004, F.S.; providing that informed consent is not required for an HIV test of an inmate prior to the inmate's release from a municipal or county detention facility; providing an effective date.

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

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- Section 1. Section 951.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 951.27 Blood tests of inmates.--
- (1) Each county and each municipal detention facility shall have a written procedure developed, in consultation with the facility medical provider, establishing conditions under which an inmate will be tested for infectious disease, including human immunodeficiency virus pursuant to s. 775.0877, which

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procedure is consistent with guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and recommendations of the Correctional Medical Authority. It is not unlawful for the person receiving the test results to divulge the test results to the sheriff or chief correctional officer.

- (2)(a) The county or municipal detention facility shall, consistent with s. 381.004(3), perform an HIV test as defined in s. 381.004(2) on each inmate who is to be released from the facility unless the facility knows that the inmate is HIV positive or unless, within 120 days before the release date, the inmate has been tested for HIV and does not request retesting. The required test must be performed not less than 30 days before the release date of the inmate. A test is not required under this paragraph if an inmate is released due to an emergency or a court order and the detention facility receives less than 30 days' notice of the release date or if the inmate is transferred to the custody of the Department of Corrections for incarceration in the state correctional system.
- (b) If the county or municipal detention facility knows that an inmate who is to be released from the facility is HIV positive or has received a positive HIV test result, that facility shall, before the inmate is released:
- 1. Notify, consistent with s. 381.004(3), the Department of Health and the county health department where the inmate being released plans to reside of the release date and HIV status of the inmate.
- 2. Provide special transitional assistance to the inmate, which must include:

a. Education on preventing the transmission of HIV to others and on the importance of receiving followup medical care and treatment.

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- b. A written, individualized discharge plan that includes referrals to and contacts with the county health department and local primary medical care services for the treatment of HIV infection that are available where the inmate plans to reside.
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, serologic blood test results obtained pursuant to subsection (1) or subsection (2) are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. However, such results may be provided to employees or officers of the sheriff or chief correctional officer who are responsible for the custody and care of the affected inmate and have a need to know such information, and as provided in ss. 381.004(3), 775.0877, and 960.003. In addition, upon request of the victim or the victim's legal quardian, or the parent or legal guardian of the victim if the victim is a minor, the results of any HIV test performed on an inmate who has been arrested for any sexual offense involving oral, anal, or vaginal penetration by, or union with, the sexual organ of another, shall be disclosed to the victim or the victim's legal guardian, or to the parent or legal guardian of the victim if the victim is a minor. In such cases, the county or municipal detention facility shall furnish the test results to the Department of Health, which is responsible for disclosing the results to public health agencies as provided in s. 775.0877 and to the victim or the victim's legal guardian, or the parent or legal

guardian of the victim if the victim is a minor, as provided in s. 960.003(3).

- (4)(3) The results of any serologic blood test on an inmate are a part of that inmate's permanent medical file. Upon transfer of the inmate to any other correctional facility, such file is also transferred, and all relevant authorized persons must be notified of positive HIV test results, as required in s. 775.0877.
- (5) Notwithstanding any statute providing for a waiver of sovereign immunity, the state, its agencies, or subdivisions, and employees of the state, its agencies, or subdivisions are not liable to any person for negligently causing death or personal injury arising out of complying with this section.
- Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 381.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.004 HIV testing.--

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- (3) HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS TESTING; INFORMED CONSENT; RESULTS; COUNSELING; CONFIDENTIALITY.--
- (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a),
 informed consent is not required:
- 1. When testing for sexually transmissible diseases is required by state or federal law, or by rule including the following situations:
- a. HIV testing pursuant to s. 796.08 of persons convicted of prostitution or of procuring another to commit prostitution.
- b. HIV testing of inmates pursuant to s. 945.355 prior to their release from prison by reason of parole, accumulation of gain-time credits, or expiration of sentence.

c. Testing for HIV by a medical examiner in accordance with s. 406.11.

- d. HIV testing of inmates pursuant to s. 951.27 prior to their release from a county or municipal detention facility.
- 2. Those exceptions provided for blood, plasma, organs, skin, semen, or other human tissue pursuant to s. 381.0041.
- 3. For the performance of an HIV-related test by licensed medical personnel in bona fide medical emergencies when the test results are necessary for medical diagnostic purposes to provide appropriate emergency care or treatment to the person being tested and the patient is unable to consent, as supported by documentation in the medical record. Notification of test results in accordance with paragraph (c) is required.
- 4. For the performance of an HIV-related test by licensed medical personnel for medical diagnosis of acute illness where, in the opinion of the attending physician, obtaining informed consent would be detrimental to the patient, as supported by documentation in the medical record, and the test results are necessary for medical diagnostic purposes to provide appropriate care or treatment to the person being tested. Notification of test results in accordance with paragraph (c) is required if it would not be detrimental to the patient. This subparagraph does not authorize the routine testing of patients for HIV infection without informed consent.
- 5. When HIV testing is performed as part of an autopsy for which consent was obtained pursuant to s. 872.04.
- 6. For the performance of an HIV test upon a defendant pursuant to the victim's request in a prosecution for any type

of sexual battery where a blood sample is taken from the defendant voluntarily, pursuant to court order for any purpose, or pursuant to the provisions of s. 775.0877, s. 951.27, or s. 960.003; however, the results of any HIV test performed shall be disclosed solely to the victim and the defendant, except as provided in ss. 775.0877, 951.27, and 960.003.

7. When an HIV test is mandated by court order.

- 8. For epidemiological research pursuant to s. 381.0032, for research consistent with institutional review boards created by 45 C.F.R. part 46, or for the performance of an HIV-related test for the purpose of research, if the testing is performed in a manner by which the identity of the test subject is not known and may not be retrieved by the researcher.
- 9. When human tissue is collected lawfully without the consent of the donor for corneal removal as authorized by s. 765.5185 or enucleation of the eyes as authorized by s. 765.519.
- 10. For the performance of an HIV test upon an individual who comes into contact with medical personnel in such a way that a significant exposure has occurred during the course of employment or within the scope of practice and where a blood sample is available that was taken from that individual voluntarily by medical personnel for other purposes. The term "medical personnel" includes a licensed or certified health care professional; an employee of a health care professional or health care facility; employees of a laboratory licensed under chapter 483; personnel of a blood bank or plasma center; a medical student or other student who is receiving training as a health care professional at a health care facility; and a

paramedic or emergency medical technician certified by the department to perform life-support procedures under s. 401.23.

- a. Prior to performance of an HIV test on a voluntarily obtained blood sample, the individual from whom the blood was obtained shall be requested to consent to the performance of the test and to the release of the results. The individual's refusal to consent and all information concerning the performance of an HIV test and any HIV test result shall be documented only in the medical personnel's record unless the individual gives written consent to entering this information on the individual's medical record.
- b. Reasonable attempts to locate the individual and to obtain consent shall be made, and all attempts must be documented. If the individual cannot be found, an HIV test may be conducted on the available blood sample. If the individual does not voluntarily consent to the performance of an HIV test, the individual shall be informed that an HIV test will be performed, and counseling shall be furnished as provided in this section. However, HIV testing shall be conducted only after a licensed physician documents, in the medical record of the medical personnel, that there has been a significant exposure and that, in the physician's medical judgment, the information is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment for the medical personnel.
- c. Costs of any HIV test of a blood sample performed with or without the consent of the individual, as provided in this subparagraph, shall be borne by the medical personnel or the employer of the medical personnel. However, costs of testing or

treatment not directly related to the initial HIV tests or costs of subsequent testing or treatment shall not be borne by the medical personnel or the employer of the medical personnel.

- d. In order to utilize the provisions of this subparagraph, the medical personnel must either be tested for HIV pursuant to this section or provide the results of an HIV test taken within 6 months prior to the significant exposure if such test results are negative.
- e. A person who receives the results of an HIV test pursuant to this subparagraph shall maintain the confidentiality of the information received and of the persons tested. Such confidential information is exempt from s. 119.07(1).
- f. If the source of the exposure will not voluntarily submit to HIV testing and a blood sample is not available, the medical personnel or the employer of such person acting on behalf of the employee may seek a court order directing the source of the exposure to submit to HIV testing. A sworn statement by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 that a significant exposure has occurred and that, in the physician's medical judgment, testing is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment constitutes probable cause for the issuance of an order by the court. The results of the test shall be released to the source of the exposure and to the person who experienced the exposure.
- 11. For the performance of an HIV test upon an individual who comes into contact with medical personnel in such a way that a significant exposure has occurred during the course of employment or within the scope of practice of the medical

personnel while the medical personnel provides emergency medical treatment to the individual; or who comes into contact with nonmedical personnel in such a way that a significant exposure has occurred while the nonmedical personnel provides emergency medical assistance during a medical emergency. For the purposes of this subparagraph, a medical emergency means an emergency medical condition outside of a hospital or health care facility that provides physician care. The test may be performed only during the course of treatment for the medical emergency.

- a. An individual who is capable of providing consent shall be requested to consent to an HIV test prior to the testing. The individual's refusal to consent, and all information concerning the performance of an HIV test and its result, shall be documented only in the medical personnel's record unless the individual gives written consent to entering this information on the individual's medical record.
- b. HIV testing shall be conducted only after a licensed physician documents, in the medical record of the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel, that there has been a significant exposure and that, in the physician's medical judgment, the information is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment for the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel.
- c. Costs of any HIV test performed with or without the consent of the individual, as provided in this subparagraph, shall be borne by the medical personnel or the employer of the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel. However, costs of testing or treatment not directly related to the initial HIV

tests or costs of subsequent testing or treatment shall not be borne by the medical personnel or the employer of the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel.

- d. In order to utilize the provisions of this subparagraph, the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel shall be tested for HIV pursuant to this section or shall provide the results of an HIV test taken within 6 months prior to the significant exposure if such test results are negative.
- e. A person who receives the results of an HIV test pursuant to this subparagraph shall maintain the confidentiality of the information received and of the persons tested. Such confidential information is exempt from s. 119.07(1).
- f. If the source of the exposure will not voluntarily submit to HIV testing and a blood sample was not obtained during treatment for the medical emergency, the medical personnel, the employer of the medical personnel acting on behalf of the employee, or the nonmedical personnel may seek a court order directing the source of the exposure to submit to HIV testing. A sworn statement by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 that a significant exposure has occurred and that, in the physician's medical judgment, testing is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment constitutes probable cause for the issuance of an order by the court. The results of the test shall be released to the source of the exposure and to the person who experienced the exposure.
- 12. For the performance of an HIV test by the medical examiner or attending physician upon an individual who expired or could not be resuscitated while receiving emergency medical

assistance or care and who was the source of a significant exposure to medical or nonmedical personnel providing such assistance or care.

- a. HIV testing may be conducted only after a licensed physician documents in the medical record of the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel that there has been a significant exposure and that, in the physician's medical judgment, the information is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment for the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel.
- b. Costs of any HIV test performed under this subparagraph may not be charged to the deceased or to the family of the deceased person.
- c. For the provisions of this subparagraph to be applicable, the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel must be tested for HIV under this section or must provide the results of an HIV test taken within 6 months before the significant exposure if such test results are negative.
- d. A person who receives the results of an HIV test pursuant to this subparagraph shall comply with paragraph (e).
- 13. For the performance of an HIV-related test medically indicated by licensed medical personnel for medical diagnosis of a hospitalized infant as necessary to provide appropriate care and treatment of the infant when, after a reasonable attempt, a parent cannot be contacted to provide consent. The medical records of the infant shall reflect the reason consent of the parent was not initially obtained. Test results shall be provided to the parent when the parent is located.

14. For the performance of HIV testing conducted to	
monitor the clinical progress of a patient previously diagnos	ed
to be HIV positive.	

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- 15. For the performance of repeated HIV testing conducted to monitor possible conversion from a significant exposure.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.