

By Senator Smith

14-1328-05

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to youth custody officers;
3 amending s. 985.2075, F.S.; authorizing a youth
4 custody officer to take a youth into custody if
5 the officer has probable cause to believe that
6 the youth has escaped from a facility operated
7 by or under contract with the department or has
8 absconded from the supervision of the
9 department; requiring the youth custody officer
10 to file certain criminal information and gather
11 evidence for court before delivering the youth
12 to certain facilities; providing an effective
13 date.

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

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17 Section 1. Section 985.2075, Florida Statutes, is
18 amended to read:

19 985.2075 Youth custody officer.--

20 (1) There is created within the Department of Juvenile
21 Justice the position of youth custody officer. The duties of
22 each youth custody officer shall be to take youth into custody
23 if the officer has probable cause to believe that the youth
24 has violated the conditions of probation, home detention,
25 conditional release, or postcommitment probation, has escaped
26 from a facility operated by or under contract with the
27 department, has absconded from the supervision of the
28 department, or has failed to appear in court after being
29 properly noticed. The authority of the youth custody officer
30 to take youth into custody is specifically limited to this
31 purpose.

1 (2) A youth custody officer who, while in the
2 performance of his or her duties, takes a youth into custody
3 for any reason specified in subsection (1) and has probable
4 cause to believe that the youth has committed new violations
5 of criminal law shall file the appropriate criminal violations
6 and gather any evidence for prosecution in a court of law
7 before delivering the child to a local law enforcement agency,
8 a juvenile assessment center, or a detention center.

9 ~~(3)(2)~~ A youth custody officer must meet the minimum
10 qualifications for employment or appointment, be certified
11 under chapter 943, and comply with the requirements for
12 continued employment required by s. 943.135. The Department of
13 Juvenile Justice must comply with the responsibilities
14 provided for an employing agency under s. 943.133 for each
15 youth custody officer.

16 ~~(4)(3)~~ A youth custody officer shall inform
17 appropriate local law enforcement agencies of his or her
18 activities under this section.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2005.

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22 SENATE SUMMARY

23 Authorizes a youth custody officer to take a youth into
24 custody if the officer has probable cause to believe that
25 the youth has escaped from a facility operated by or
26 under contract with the department or has absconded from
27 the supervision of the department. Requires the youth
28 custody officer to file certain criminal information and
29 gather evidence for court before delivering the youth to
30 certain destinations.
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