

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to child abuse; amending ss. 39.001 and  
 3           39.201, F.S.; requiring all Department of Children and  
 4           Family Services employees and persons in specified  
 5           occupation categories assigned to report, manage, or  
 6           supervise cases of child abuse, abandonment, and neglect  
 7           to annually complete a continuing education course;  
 8           providing an effective date.

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

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 12           Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section  
 13           39.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14           39.001 Purposes and intent; personnel standards and  
 15           screening.--

16           (2) DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS.--The department may contract  
 17           with the Federal Government, other state departments and  
 18           agencies, county and municipal governments and agencies, public  
 19           and private agencies, and private individuals and corporations  
 20           in carrying out the purposes of, and the responsibilities  
 21           established in, this chapter.

22           (e) The department shall develop and implement a written  
 23           and performance-based testing and evaluation program to ensure  
 24           measurable competencies of all employees assigned to report,  
 25           manage, or supervise cases of child abuse, abandonment, and  
 26           neglect. All employees assigned to report, manage, or supervise  
 27           cases of child abuse, abandonment, and neglect shall complete a  
 28           1-hour continuing education course on child abuse each year.

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29 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
 30 39.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

31 39.201 Mandatory reports of child abuse, abandonment, or  
 32 neglect; mandatory reports of death; central abuse hotline.--

33 (1)

34 (b) Reporters in the following occupation categories are  
 35 required to provide their names to the hotline staff and are  
 36 required to complete a 1-hour continuing education course on  
 37 child abuse each year:

38 1. Physician, osteopathic physician, medical examiner,  
 39 chiropractic physician, nurse, or hospital personnel engaged in  
 40 the admission, examination, care, or treatment of persons;

41 2. Health or mental health professional other than one  
 42 listed in subparagraph 1.;

43 3. Practitioner who relies solely on spiritual means for  
 44 healing;

45 4. School teacher or other school official or personnel;

46 5. Social worker, day care center worker, or other  
 47 professional child care, foster care, residential, or  
 48 institutional worker;

49 6. Law enforcement officer; or

50 7. Judge.

51

52 The names of reporters shall be entered into the record of the  
 53 report, but shall be held confidential and exempt as provided in  
 54 s. 39.202.

55 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.