

1  
2 An act relating to youth and young adults with  
3 disabilities; creating the Interagency Services  
4 Committee for Youth and Young Adults with  
5 Disabilities; providing legislative intent;  
6 providing that the committee be staffed by  
7 member agencies of the committee; providing for  
8 the membership of the committee; providing  
9 duties and responsibilities for the committee;  
10 requiring the committee to submit a report to  
11 the Governor and the Legislature; providing an  
12 effective date.

13  
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15  
16 Section 1. Interagency Services Committee for Youth  
17 and Young Adults with Disabilities.--

18 (1) The Agency for Persons with Disabilities may  
19 create the Interagency Services Committee for Youth and Young  
20 Adults with Disabilities. It is the intent of the Legislature  
21 that the committee develop strategies to ensure successful  
22 transition to employment or further education of youth and  
23 young adults with disabilities and to eliminate barriers that  
24 impede educational opportunities leading to future employment.

25 (2)(a) The committee shall consist of heads, or their  
26 designees, of the following agencies and bureaus or divisions  
27 of agencies: the Department of Education and, in that  
28 department, the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student  
29 Services, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the  
30 Division of Blind Services, the Division of Community  
31 Colleges, workforce education, and the office of interagency

1 programs; the Agency for Persons with Disabilities; the Agency  
2 for Health Care Administration; the Division of Children's  
3 Medical Services Network in the Department of Health;  
4 children's mental health in the Department of Children and  
5 Family Services; the Department of Juvenile Justice; the  
6 Department of Corrections; the Commission for the  
7 Transportation Disadvantaged; and the Florida Housing Finance  
8 Corporation. Agency representatives must be at least at the  
9 bureau chief level. The committee may invite representation  
10 from the following private and public parties: the Able Trust;  
11 the Business Leadership Network; the Florida Advocacy Center;  
12 the Governor's Americans with Disabilities Act Working Group;  
13 the Florida Association for Centers for Independent Living; an  
14 individual with a disability; and a parent or guardian of an  
15 individual with a disability. The members of the committee  
16 shall designate one of its members as chairperson.

17 (b) The Department of Children and Family Services,  
18 the Department of Education, the Department of Health, and the  
19 Agency for Persons with Disabilities shall provide staff  
20 support to the committee. Meetings and records of the  
21 committee are subject to ss. 119.07 and 286.011, Florida  
22 Statutes. The chairperson may designate one of the agencies  
23 providing staff support to perform administrative  
24 responsibilities for the committee.

25 (c) Committee members shall serve without compensation  
26 but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in  
27 carrying out their duties as provided in s. 112.061, Florida  
28 Statutes. Members who are public officers or employees shall  
29 be reimbursed through the budget entity through which they are  
30 compensated. Reimbursement for members who are not public  
31

1 officers or employees shall alternate between the budget  
2 entities represented on the committee.  
3 (3) The committee shall:  
4 (a) Identify the roles and responsibilities of each  
5 agency with regard to the committee goals.  
6 (b) Develop collaborative relationships to identify  
7 and assist in removing federal and state barriers to achieving  
8 the goals.  
9 (c) Identify common or comparable performance measures  
10 for all agencies that serve youth and young adults with  
11 disabilities.  
12 (d) Design a mechanism to annually assess the progress  
13 toward the goals by each agency.  
14 (e) Collect and disseminate information on  
15 research-based practices of state and local agencies on  
16 successful strategies.  
17 (f) Develop strategies to educate public and private  
18 employers on the benefit of hiring persons with disabilities.  
19 (g) Develop strategies to encourage and provide  
20 incentives for public and private employers to hire persons  
21 with disabilities.  
22 (h) Recommend a statewide system of accountability  
23 which would include incentives for persons with disabilities;  
24 service providers, including school districts, technical  
25 centers, and community colleges; and businesses and industries  
26 providing integrated competitive employment to individuals  
27 with disabilities.  
28 (4) The committee shall present a report of its  
29 findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of  
30 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
31 March 1, 2007, and a final report on its findings and

1 recommendations by January 1, 2008. The committee is abolished  
2 on June 1, 2008.

3           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
4 law.

5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31