

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to corrections; amending s. 945.28, F.S.;
 3 prohibiting the location of a probation and parole office
 4 within a specified distance of certain schools and day
 5 care facilities; providing for relocation of current
 6 probation and parole offices not in compliance with this
 7 requirement; creating s. 943.1301, F.S.; providing for
 8 certification of county probation officers at the
 9 discretion of the county governing body; providing for
 10 training for such officers; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Section 945.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 15 read:

16 945.28 Location ~~Selection~~ of probation or parole offices
 17 ~~by the department; prohibitions;~~ public notice.--

18 (1) ~~Beginning July 1, 1995,~~ Whenever the department is
 19 going to enter into a contract for the lease or purchase of a
 20 probation and parole office space to be used by the department,
 21 the department shall provide notice, by publication in the
 22 county in which the office space is to be located, in a
 23 newspaper of general circulation in said county, 30 days prior
 24 to signing any lease or purchasing any property to be used for
 25 office space, that the department intends to lease or purchase
 26 such property. The published notice shall include a telephone
 27 number whereby interested members of the public may communicate

28 with the department with respect to any questions or input the
 29 public may have with regard to the proposed lease or purchase.

30 (2)(a) A probation and parole office may not be located
 31 within 2,500 feet of a school for children in grade 12 or lower
 32 or a licensed day care center facility.

33 (b) When the site of the proposed probation and parole
 34 office space is to be located within one-quarter ~~one-quarter~~
 35 ~~mile of a school for children in grade 12 or lower, licensed day~~
 36 ~~care center facility,~~ park, playground, nursing home,
 37 convalescent center, hospital, association for disabled
 38 population, mental health center, youth center, group home for
 39 disabled population or youth, or other place where children or a
 40 population especially vulnerable to crime due to age or physical
 41 or mental disability regularly congregates, the department shall
 42 provide written notification to the county or city administrator
 43 in the county or city in which the office space is to be located
 44 simultaneously with the newspaper publication.

45 Section 2. Any probation and parole office that does not
 46 comply with the requirements of s. 945.28(2)(a), Florida
 47 Statutes, as amended by this act, on the effective date of this
 48 act shall have until August 1, 2006, or the expiration of its
 49 current lease, whichever is earlier, to be relocated to a
 50 location that complies with s. 945.28(2)(a), Florida Statutes,
 51 as amended by this act.

52 Section 3. Section 943.1301, Florida Statutes, is created
 53 to read:

54 943.1301 Certification of county probation officers.--At
 55 the discretion of the governing body of a county, the county may

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56 require the county's probation officers to be certified by the
57 commission and the department. The county shall provide
58 certification criteria that shall be substantially similar to
59 the criteria for correctional probation officers established in
60 s. 943.13. The commission and the department shall provide
61 training and certification for such county probation officers
62 consistent with this section and s. 943.13.

63 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.