

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

1 Representative(s) Planas offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Between line(s) 159 and 160, insert:

5 Section 2. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (1) of
6 section 985.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

7 985.02 Legislative intent for the juvenile justice
8 system.--

9 (1) GENERAL PROTECTIONS FOR CHILDREN.--It is a purpose of
10 the Legislature that the children of this state be provided with
11 the following protections:

12 (j) A fully integrated, comprehensive approach to handling
13 all cases that involve children and families and a resolution of
14 family disputes in a fair, timely, efficient, and cost-effective
15 manner. It is the intent of the Legislature that the courts of
16 this state embrace methods of resolving disputes that do not
17 cause additional emotional harm to the children and families who

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18 are required to interact with the judicial system. It is the
19 intent of the Legislature to support the development of a
20 unified family court and to support the state courts system's
21 efforts to improve the resolution of disputes involving children
22 and families through a fully integrated, comprehensive approach
23 that includes coordinated case management; the concept of "one
24 family, one judge"; collaboration with the community for
25 referral to needed services; and methods of alternative dispute
26 resolution. The Legislature supports the goal that the legal
27 system should focus on the needs of children who are involved in
28 the litigation, refer families to resources that will make
29 families' relationships stronger, coordinate families' cases to
30 provide consistent results, and strive to leave families in
31 better condition than when the families entered the system.

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33 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

34 Remove line(s) 10 and insert:

35 abuse investigations; amending s. 985.02, F.S.; providing
36 additional purposes relating to implementing a unified family
37 court program in the circuit courts; providing legislative
38 intent; amending s. 985.207, F.S.;

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