1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to juvenile justice; amending s. 985.04, F.S.; authorizing disclosure of specified 3 4 confidential juvenile records to private school 5 principals; requiring the Department of Juvenile 6 Justice, law enforcement agencies, and state attorneys 7 to provide notice to private school principals of specified juvenile offenders; providing criminal 8 9 penalties for a private school employee who improperly discloses specified confidential information; 10 requiring private school principals to notify 11 12 classroom teachers of specified information; amending 13 s. 985.207, F.S.; requiring the arresting authority to 14 provide notice to private school principals of specified juvenile offenders; requiring private school 15 principals to notify classroom teachers of specified 16 17 information; permitting a law enforcement officer to take a child into custody for a violation of 18 19 adjudication order conditions; amending s. 985.215, F.S.; permitting specified types of postadjudication 20 21 detention for a child who has previously failed to appear at delinquency court proceedings regardless of 22 risk assessment instrument results; providing 23 exceptions that permit postadjudication detention 24 until the child's disposition order is entered in his 25 26 or her case; conforming cross-references; requiring detention staff to notify private school personnel of 27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

a juvenile sexual offender's release; amending s. 985.228, F.S.; requiring a court to include specified conditions in a child's order of adjudication of delinquency that apply during the postadjudication and predisposition period; providing a definition; permitting a court to find a child in contempt of court for a violation of adjudication order conditions; providing sanctions; amending s. 985.31, F.S.; deleting a requirement for a report on serious or habitual juvenile offenders; amending s. 985.311, F.S.; deleting a requirement for a report on intensive residential treatment; amending s. 985.317, F.S.; deleting a requirement for a report on literacy programs for juvenile offenders; creating s. 985.3142, F.S.; providing that the willful failure of a child to return to a residential commitment facility within the time authorized for a temporary release is absconding for a first offense and is a second degree misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense; providing penalties; amending s. 985.412, F.S.; directing the Department of Juvenile Justice to collect and analyze specified data; creating and revising definitions; requiring the development of a standard methodology for annually measuring, evaluating, and reporting program outputs and youth outcomes; requiring an annual report; specifying report contents; deleting a requirement for an annual cost data report; deleting a

requirement for a cost-benefit analysis of educational programs; revising a cost-effectiveness model for commitment programs; revising a cost-effectiveness report due date; revising requirements for annual quality assurance reporting; conforming provisions; deleting obsolete provisions relating to incentive and disincentive proposals and liquidated damages; creating a pilot program that authorizes specified courts to select commitment programs for juvenile delinquents; providing definitions; providing the program's purpose; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to develop implementation procedures and to publish specified information about commitment programs on its website; providing procedures for the selection of commitment programs by courts; requiring evaluation and reports by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability; specifying department and court responsibilities relating to the reports; providing for future repeal of the pilot program; providing an effective date.

74 75

55

56

57 58

59 60

61

62

63

64

65 66

67

68

69 70

71

72

73

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

77 78

76

Section 1. Subsections (3) and (7) of section 985.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

79 80

985.04 Oaths; records; confidential information. --

81

82

83

84

85 86

87

88 89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102103

104

105

106

107

(3)(a) Except as provided in subsections (2), (4), (5), and (6), and s. 943.053, all information obtained under this part in the discharge of official duty by any judge, any employee of the court, any authorized agent of the department of Juvenile Justice, the Parole Commission, the Department of Corrections, the juvenile justice circuit boards, any law enforcement agent, or any licensed professional or licensed community agency representative participating in the assessment or treatment of a juvenile is confidential and may be disclosed only to the authorized personnel of the court, the department of Juvenile Justice and its designees, the Department of Corrections, the Parole Commission, law enforcement agents, school superintendents and their designees, the principal of a private school attended by the juvenile, any licensed professional or licensed community agency representative participating in the assessment or treatment of a juvenile, and others entitled under this chapter to receive that information, or upon order of the court. Within each county, the sheriff, the chiefs of police, the district school superintendent, and the department shall enter into an interagency agreement for the purpose of sharing information about juvenile offenders among all parties. The agreement must specify the conditions under which summary criminal history information is to be made available to appropriate school personnel, and the conditions under which school records are to be made available to appropriate department personnel. Such agreement shall require notification to any classroom teacher of assignment to the

teacher's classroom of a juvenile who has been placed in a probation or commitment program for a felony offense. The agencies entering into such agreement must comply with s. 943.0525, and must maintain the confidentiality of information that is otherwise exempt from s. 119.07(1), as provided by law.

- (b) The department shall disclose to the school superintendent and the principal of a private school attended by the child the presence of any child in the care and custody or under the jurisdiction or supervision of the department who has a known history of criminal sexual behavior with other juveniles; is an alleged juvenile sex offender, as defined in s. 39.01; or has pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found to have committed, a violation of chapter 794, chapter 796, chapter 800, s. 827.071, or s. 847.0133, regardless of adjudication. Any employee of a district school board or private school who knowingly and willfully discloses such information to an unauthorized person commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (7) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, when a child of any age is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer for an offense that would have been a felony if committed by an adult, or a crime of violence, the law enforcement agency must notify the superintendent of schools, if the child attends public school, or the principal of a private school attended by the child, that the child is alleged to have committed the delinquent act.

134

135

136

137

138139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148149

150

151

152

153

154

155

156

157

158

159

160

Notwithstanding paragraph (a) or any other provision of this section, when a child of any age is formally charged by a state attorney with a felony or a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, the state attorney shall notify the superintendent of schools, if the child attends public school, or the principal of a private school attended by the child, the child's school that the child has been charged with such felony or delinquent act. The information obtained by the superintendent of schools or private school principal pursuant to this section must be released within 48 hours after receipt to appropriate school personnel, including the principal of the public school of the child. The public or private school principal must immediately notify the child's immediate classroom teachers. Upon notification, the principal is authorized to begin disciplinary actions pursuant to s. 1006.09(1)-(4).

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 985.207, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (e) is added to that subsection, to read:

985.207 Taking a child into custody. --

- (1) A child may be taken into custody under the following circumstances:
- (b) For a delinquent act or violation of law, pursuant to Florida law pertaining to a lawful arrest. If such delinquent act or violation of law would be a felony if committed by an adult or involves a crime of violence, the arresting authority shall immediately notify the district school superintendent, or

Page 6 of 30

the superintendent's designee, of the school district with educational jurisdiction of the child or the principal of a private school attended by the child. Such notification shall include other education providers such as the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, university developmental research schools, and private elementary and secondary schools. The information obtained by the superintendent of schools or a private school principal pursuant to this section must be released within 48 hours after receipt to appropriate school personnel, including the principal of the child's public school, or as otherwise provided by law. The public or private school principal must immediately notify the child's immediate classroom teachers. Information provided by an arresting authority pursuant to this paragraph may not be placed in the student's permanent record and shall be removed from all school records no later than 9 months after the date of the arrest.

(e) When a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that a child who is awaiting disposition has violated conditions imposed by the court under s. 985.228(5) in his or her order of adjudication of delinquency.

181182

183

184

185

186

187

161

162

163

164

165166

167

168169

170

171

172

173

174

175

176

177

178

179

180

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to allow the detention of a child who does not meet the detention criteria in s. 985.215.

Section 3. Subsection (2), paragraphs (d) and (g) of subsection (5), and paragraph (b) of subsection (11) of section 985.215, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

## 985.215 Detention.--

- (2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1), a child taken into custody and placed into nonsecure or home detention care or detained in secure detention care prior to a detention hearing may continue to be detained by the court if:
- (a) The child is alleged to be an escapee from a residential commitment program, or an absconder from a nonresidential commitment program, a probation program, or conditional release supervision, or is alleged to have escaped while being lawfully transported to or from a residential commitment program.
- (b) The child is wanted in another jurisdiction for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would be a felony.
- (c) The child is charged with a delinquent act or violation of law and requests in writing through legal counsel to be detained for protection from an imminent physical threat to his or her personal safety.
- (d) The child is charged with committing an offense of domestic violence as defined in s. 741.28 and is detained as provided in s. 985.213(2)(b)3.
- (e) The child is charged with possession or discharging a firearm on school property in violation of s. 790.115.
- (f) The child is charged with a capital felony, a life felony, a felony of the first degree, a felony of the second degree that does not involve a violation of chapter 893, or a felony of the third degree that is also a crime of violence,

Page 8 of 30

including any such offense involving the use or possession of a firearm.

216

217

218219

220

221222

223

224

225

226

227

228229

230

231

232

233

234

235236

237

238

239

- (g) The child is charged with any second degree or third degree felony involving a violation of chapter 893 or any third degree felony that is not also a crime of violence, and the child:
- 1. Has a record of failure to appear at court hearings after being properly notified in accordance with the Rules of Juvenile Procedure;
  - 2. Has a record of law violations prior to court hearings;
- 3. Has already been detained or has been released and is awaiting final disposition of the case;
- 4. Has a record of violent conduct resulting in physical injury to others; or
  - 5. Is found to have been in possession of a firearm.
- (h) The child is alleged to have violated the conditions of the child's probation or conditional release supervision. However, a child detained under this paragraph may be held only in a consequence unit as provided in s. 985.231(1)(a)1.c. If a consequence unit is not available, the child shall be placed on home detention with electronic monitoring.
- (i) The child is detained on a judicial order for failure to appear and has previously willfully failed to appear, after proper notice, for an adjudicatory hearing on the same case regardless of the results of the risk assessment instrument. A child may be held in secure detention for up to 72 hours in advance of the next scheduled court hearing pursuant to this

paragraph. The child's failure to keep the clerk of court and defense counsel informed of a current and valid mailing address where the child will receive notice to appear at court proceedings does not provide an adequate ground for excusal of the child's nonappearance at the hearings.

- (j) The child is detained on a judicial order for failure to appear and has previously willfully failed to appear, after proper notice, at two or more court hearings of any nature on the same case regardless of the results of the risk assessment instrument. A child may be held in secure detention for up to 72 hours in advance of the next scheduled court hearing pursuant to this paragraph. The child's failure to keep the clerk of court and defense counsel informed of a current and valid mailing address where the child will receive notice to appear at court proceedings does not provide an adequate ground for excusal of the child's nonappearance at the hearings.
- (k) At his or her adjudicatory hearing, the child has been found to have committed a delinquent act or violation of law and has previously willfully failed to appear, after proper notice, for other delinquency court proceedings of any nature regardless of the results of the risk assessment instrument. A child may be held in secure detention or, at the discretion of the court and if available, placed on home detention with electronic monitoring until the child's disposition order is entered in his or her case. The child's failure to keep the clerk of court and defense counsel informed of a current and valid mailing address where the child will receive notice to appear at court

proceedings does not provide an adequate ground for excusal of the child's nonappearance at the hearings.

270

271

272273

274

275276

277

278279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289290

291

292

293

294

268

269

A child who meets any of these criteria and who is ordered to be detained pursuant to this subsection shall be given a hearing within 24 hours after being taken into custody. The purpose of the detention hearing is to determine the existence of probable cause that the child has committed the delinquent act or violation of law with which he or she is charged and the need for continued detention, except where the child is alleged to have absconded from a nonresidential commitment program in which case the court, at the detention hearing, shall order that the child be released from detention and returned to his or her nonresidential commitment program. Unless a child is detained under paragraph (d), or paragraph (e), or paragraph (k), the court shall use the results of the risk assessment performed by the juvenile probation officer and, based on the criteria in this subsection, shall determine the need for continued detention. A child placed into secure, nonsecure, or home detention care may continue to be so detained by the court pursuant to this subsection. If the court orders a placement more restrictive than indicated by the results of the risk assessment instrument, the court shall state, in writing, clear and convincing reasons for such placement. Except as provided in s. 790.22(8) or in subparagraph (10)(a)2., paragraph (10)(b), paragraph (10)(c), or paragraph (10)(d), when a child is placed into secure or nonsecure detention care, or into a respite home

or other placement pursuant to a court order following a hearing, the court order must include specific instructions that direct the release of the child from such placement no later than 5 p.m. on the last day of the detention period specified in paragraph (5)(b) or paragraph (5)(c), or subparagraph (10)(a)1., whichever is applicable, unless the requirements of such applicable provision have been met or an order of continuance has been granted pursuant to paragraph (5)(f).

(5)

- (d) Except as provided in <u>paragraph (2)(k)</u>, paragraph (g), or s. 985.228(5), a child may not be held in secure, nonsecure, or home detention care for more than 15 days following the entry of an order of adjudication.
- (g) Upon good cause being shown that the nature of the charge requires additional time for the prosecution or defense of the case, the court may extend the time limits for detention specified in paragraph (c) or paragraph (d) an additional 9 days if the child is charged with an offense that would be, if committed by an adult, a capital felony, a life felony, a felony of the first degree, or a felony of the second degree involving violence against any individual.

(11)

(b) When a juvenile sexual offender, pursuant to this subsection, is released from detention or transferred to home detention or nonsecure detention, detention staff shall immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and

Page 12 of 30

school personnel at the public or private school attended by the offender.

Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 985.228, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 985.228 Adjudicatory hearings; withheld adjudications; orders of adjudication.--
- (5) (a) If the court finds that the child named in a petition has committed a delinquent act or violation of law, but elects not to proceed under subsection (4), it shall incorporate that finding in an order of adjudication of delinquency entered in the case, briefly stating the facts upon which the finding is made, and the court shall thereafter have full authority under this chapter to deal with the child as adjudicated.
- (b) The order of adjudication of delinquency under paragraph (a) shall also include conditions that must be followed by the child until a disposition order is entered in his or her case. These conditions must include, but are not limited to, specifying that the child, during any period of time that he or she:
- 1. Is not in secure detention, must comply with a curfew; must attend school or another educational program, if eligible; and is prohibited from engaging in ungovernable behavior.
- 2. Is in secure detention, is prohibited from engaging in ungovernable behavior.
- (c) For purposes of this subsection, the term "ungovernable behavior" means:

Page 13 of 30

1. The child's failing to obey the reasonable and lawful demands of the child's parent or legal guardian and, where applicable, the reasonable and lawful demands of a person responsible for supervising the child while he or she is in school, another educational program, or secure detention.

- 2. The child engaging in behavior that evidences a risk that the child may fail to appear for future court proceedings or may inflict harm upon others or the property of others.
- 3. Other behavior of the child as specified in writing by the court in the order of adjudication of delinquency.
- (d) If a child willfully violates a condition contained in his or her order of adjudication of delinquency, the court may find the child in direct or indirect contempt of court under s.

  985.216; however, notwithstanding s. 985.216 and the results of the risk assessment instrument, the child's sanctions for such contempt of court shall be placement in secure detention or, at the discretion of the court and if available, on home detention with electronic monitoring until the child's disposition order is entered in his or her case.
- Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 985.31, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 985.31 Serious or habitual juvenile offender.--
- (1) ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT SERVICES.--Pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and the establishment of appropriate program guidelines and standards, contractual instruments, which shall include safeguards of all constitutional rights, shall be developed as follows:

Page 14 of 30

(a) The department shall provide for:

- 1. The oversight of implementation of assessment and treatment approaches.
- 2. The identification and prequalification of appropriate individuals or not-for-profit organizations, including minority individuals or organizations when possible, to provide assessment and treatment services to serious or habitual delinquent children.
- 3. The monitoring and evaluation of assessment and treatment services for compliance with the provisions of this chapter and all applicable rules and guidelines pursuant thereto.
- 4. The development of an annual report on the performance of assessment and treatment to be presented to the Governor, the Attorney General, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Auditor General no later than January 1 of each year.
- Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 985.311, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 985.311 Intensive residential treatment program for offenders less than 13 years of age.--
- (1) ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT SERVICES.--Pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and the establishment of appropriate program guidelines and standards, contractual instruments, which shall include safeguards of all constitutional rights, shall be developed for intensive residential treatment programs for offenders less than 13 years of age as follows:

Page 15 of 30

(a) The department shall provide for:

- 1. The oversight of implementation of assessment and treatment approaches.
- 2. The identification and prequalification of appropriate individuals or not-for-profit organizations, including minority individuals or organizations when possible, to provide assessment and treatment services to intensive offenders less than 13 years of age.
- 3. The monitoring and evaluation of assessment and treatment services for compliance with the provisions of this chapter and all applicable rules and guidelines pursuant thereto.
- 4. The development of an annual report on the performance of assessment and treatment to be presented to the Governor, the Attorney General, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Auditor General, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability no later than January 1 of each year.
- Section 7. Subsection (5) of section 985.317, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 985.317 Literacy programs for juvenile offenders.--
- (5) EVALUATION AND REPORT. -- The department, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall develop and implement an evaluation of the literacy program in order to determine the impact of the programs on recidivism. The department shall submit an annual report on the implementation and progress of the programs to the President of the Senate and

Page 16 of 30

the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1 of each year.

Section 8. Section 985.3142, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 985.3142 Failure to return from a temporary release.--The willful failure of a child to return to a residential commitment facility described in s. 985.03(46) within the time authorized for a temporary release shall:
- (1) For a first offense, constitute absconding and such offense shall be treated in the same manner as absconding from a nonresidential commitment facility under this chapter, except that under s. 985.215(2) the court shall order that the child be returned to his or her residential commitment facility at the child's detention hearing.
- (2) For a second or subsequent offense, constitute a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- Section 9. Section 985.412, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 985.412 Program review and reporting requirements Quality assurance and cost effectiveness.--
- (1) <u>LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE.--</u>It is the intent of the Legislature that the department:
- (a) Ensure that information be provided to decisionmakers in a timely manner so that resources are allocated to programs that of the department which achieve desired performance levels.

Page 17 of 30

(b) Collect and analyze available statistical data for the purpose of ongoing evaluation of all programs.

- (c) (b) Provide information about the cost of such programs and their differential effectiveness so that program the quality may of such programs can be compared and improvements made continually.
- (d) (c) Provide information to aid in developing related policy issues and concerns.
- $\underline{\text{(e)}}$  Provide information to the public about the effectiveness of  $\underline{\text{such}}$  programs in meeting established goals and objectives.
- $\underline{\text{(f)}}$  Provide a basis for a system of accountability so that each  $\underline{\text{youth}}$  client is afforded the best programs to meet his or her needs.
  - (g) (f) Improve service delivery to youth clients.
- $\underline{\text{(h)}}$  (g) Modify or eliminate activities that are not effective.
  - (2) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Youth" "Client" means any person who is being provided treatment or services by the department or by a provider under contract with the department.
- (b) "Program" means any facility, service, or program for youth that is operated by the department or by a provider under contract with the department.
- (c) (b) "Program component" means an aggregation of generally related objectives which, because of their special character, related workload, and interrelated output, can

Page 18 of 30

logically be considered an entity for purposes of organization, management, accounting, reporting, and budgeting.

(c) "Program effectiveness" means the ability of the program to achieve desired client outcomes, goals, and objectives.

- (d) "Program group" means a collection of programs with sufficient similarity of function, services, and youth to permit appropriate comparisons among programs within the group.
- with the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, and contract service providers, shall develop and use a standard methodology for annually measuring, evaluating, and reporting program outputs and youth outcomes for each program and program group.
  - (a) The standard methodology must:
- 1. Incorporate, whenever possible, performance-based budgeting measures.
- 2. Include common terminology and operational definitions for measuring the performance of system and program administration, program outputs, and youth outcomes.
- 3. Specify program outputs for each program and for each program group within the juvenile justice continuum.
- 4. Specify desired youth outcomes and methods by which to measure youth outcomes for each program and program group.
- (b) By February 15 of each year, the department shall submit to the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of

Page 19 of 30

each house of the Legislature and the Governor a report that identifies and describes:

508

509

510

511

512513

514

515

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

- 1. The standard methodology implemented under paragraph
  (a).
  - 2. The programs offered within each program group.
- 3. The demographic profile and offense history of youth served in each program group.
- The actual program outputs and youth outcomes achieved in each program group. The department shall annually collect and report cost data for every program operated or contracted by the department. The cost data shall conform to a format approved by the department and the Legislature. Uniform cost data shall be reported and collected for state operated and contracted programs so that comparisons can be made among programs. The department shall ensure that there is accurate cost accounting for state operated services including market equivalent rent and other shared cost. The cost of the educational program provided to a residential facility shall be reported and included in the cost of a program. The department shall submit an annual cost report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of each house of the Legislature, the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of each house of the Legislature, and the Governor, no later than December 1 of each year. Cost benefit analysis for educational programs will be developed and implemented in collaboration with and in cooperation with the Department of Education, local providers, and local school districts. Cost

data for the report shall include data collected by the

Department of Education for the purposes of preparing the annual report required by s. 1003.52(19).

- (4) (a) PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.-- The department of Juvenile Justice, in consultation with the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and contract service providers, shall develop a cost-effectiveness model and apply the model to each commitment program. Program recidivism rates shall be a component of the model.
- (a) The cost-effectiveness model shall compare program costs to expected and actual youth recidivism rates client outcomes and program outputs. It is the intent of the Legislature that continual development efforts take place to improve the validity and reliability of the cost-effectiveness model and to integrate the standard methodology developed under s. 985.401(4) for interpreting program outcome evaluations.
- (b) The department shall rank commitment programs based on the cost-effectiveness model and shall submit a report to the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of each house of the Legislature by January 15 December 31 of each year.
- (c) Based on reports of the department on client outcomes and program outputs and on the department's most recent costeffectiveness rankings, the department may terminate a commitment program operated by the department or a provider if the program has failed to achieve a minimum threshold of costeffectiveness program effectiveness. This paragraph does not preclude the department from terminating a contract as provided

under this section or as otherwise provided by law or contract, and does not limit the department's authority to enter into or terminate a contract.

- (d) In collaboration with the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and contract service providers, the department shall develop a work plan to refine the costeffectiveness model so that the model is consistent with the performance-based program budgeting measures approved by the Legislature to the extent the department deems appropriate. The department shall notify the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability of any meetings to refine the model.
- (e) Contingent upon specific appropriation, the department, in consultation with the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and contract service providers, shall:
- 1. Construct a profile of each commitment program that uses the results of the quality assurance report required by this section, the cost-effectiveness report required in this subsection, and other reports available to the department.
- 2. Target, for a more comprehensive evaluation, any commitment program that has achieved consistently high, low, or disparate ratings in the reports required under subparagraph 1.
- 3. Identify the essential factors that contribute to the high, low, or disparate program ratings.
- 4. Use the results of these evaluations in developing or refining juvenile justice programs or program models, youth

client outcomes and program outputs, provider contracts, quality
assurance standards, and the cost-effectiveness model.

(5) QUALITY ASSURANCE. -- The department shall:

- (a) Establish a comprehensive quality assurance system for each program operated by the department or operated by a provider under contract with the department. Each contract entered into by the department must provide for quality assurance.
- (b) Provide operational definitions of and criteria for quality assurance for each specific program component.
- (c) Establish quality assurance goals and objectives for each specific program component.
- (d) Establish the information and specific data elements required for the quality assurance program.
- (e) Develop a quality assurance manual of specific, standardized terminology and procedures to be followed by each program.
- (f) Evaluate each program operated by the department or a provider under a contract with the department and establish minimum thresholds for each program component. If a provider fails to meet the established minimum thresholds, such failure shall cause the department to cancel the provider's contract unless the provider achieves compliance with minimum thresholds within 6 months or unless there are documented extenuating circumstances. In addition, the department may not contract with the same provider for the canceled service for a period of 12 months. If a department-operated program fails to meet the

established minimum thresholds, the department must take necessary and sufficient steps to ensure and document program changes to achieve compliance with the established minimum thresholds. If the department-operated program fails to achieve compliance with the established minimum thresholds within 6 months and if there are no documented extenuating circumstances, the department must notify the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature of the corrective action taken. Appropriate corrective action may include, but is not limited to:

- Contracting out for the services provided in the program;
- 2. Initiating appropriate disciplinary action against all employees whose conduct or performance is deemed to have materially contributed to the program's failure to meet established minimum thresholds;
  - 3. Redesigning the program; or
  - 4. Realigning the program.

- <u>(g)</u> The department shall Submit an annual report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of each house of the Legislature, the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of each house of the Legislature, and the Governor by, no later than February 1 of each year. The annual report must contain, at a minimum, for each specific program component:
- 1. A comprehensive description of the population served.
  by the program;
  - 2. A specific description of its the services.

Page 24 of 30

3. A summary of the performance of each program component evaluated. provided by the program;

- 4. Cost data that is reported in a uniform format so that cost comparisons may be made among programs. For a residential program, the cost data must include the cost of its educational program.
- $\underline{\textbf{5.}}$  A comparison of expenditures to federal and state funding.  $\underline{\textbf{7}}$ 
  - 6. Immediate and long-range concerns.; and

- 7. Recommendations to maintain, expand, improve, modify, or eliminate each program component so that changes in services lead to enhancement in program quality. The department shall ensure the reliability and validity of the information contained in the report.
- (6) The department shall collect and analyze available statistical data for the purpose of ongoing evaluation of all programs. The department shall provide the Legislature with necessary information and reports to enable the Legislature to make informed decisions regarding the effectiveness of, and any needed changes in, services, programs, policies, and laws.
- (7) No later than November 1, 2001, the department shall submit a proposal to the Legislature concerning funding incentives and disincentives for the department and for providers under contract with the department. The recommendations for funding incentives and disincentives shall be based upon both quality assurance performance and cost effectiveness performance. The proposal should strive to achieve

consistency in incentives and disincentives for both departmentoperated and contractor provided programs. The department may
include recommendations for the use of liquidated damages in the
proposal; however, the department is not presently authorized to
contract for liquidated damages in non hardware secure
facilities until January 1, 2002.

Section 10. <u>Judicial discretion to select commitment</u> programs; pilot program.--

- (1) The definitions contained in s. 985.03, Florida

  Statutes, apply to this section. Additionally, for purposes of this section, the term:
- (a) "Available placement" means a commitment program for which the department has determined the youth is eligible.
- (b) "Commitment program" means a facility, service, or program operated by the department or by a provider under contract with the department within a restrictiveness level.
- (c) "Delinquency court" means a circuit court in the First, Eleventh, Thirteenth, or Twentieth Judicial Circuit.
- (d) "Eligible" means a determination that the youth satisfies admission criteria for the commitment program.
- (e) "Wait period" means the shortest period of time expected to elapse prior to placement of a youth in a commitment program, as determined by the department based upon anticipated release dates for youth currently in the commitment program.
- (2) Between September 1, 2006, and July 1, 2010, a pilot program shall be conducted in the First, Eleventh, Thirteenth, and Twentieth Judicial Circuits which authorizes delinquency

Page 26 of 30

courts to select commitment programs for youth. The purpose of the pilot program is to identify and evaluate the benefits and disadvantages of affording such judicial discretion prior to legislative consideration of statewide implementation.

- (3) Before August 31, 2006, the department shall:
- (a) Develop, in consultation with delinquency court judges, procedures to implement this section.

- (b) Publish on its Internet website information that identifies the name and address of each commitment program and that describes for each identified commitment program the population of youth served; the maximum capacity; the services offered; the admission criteria; the most recent recidivism rates; and the most recent cost-effectiveness rankings and quality assurance results under s. 985.412, Florida Statutes. The department shall continually update information published under this paragraph as modifications occur.
- (4) Between September 1, 2006, and July 1, 2010, a delinquency court may:
- (a) Order the department to include in a youth's predisposition report a list of all available placements within each restrictiveness level identified by the court or recommended by the department. The list shall also indicate the wait period for each available placement identified by the department.
- (b) 1. Specify for a youth committed by the court an available placement identified in the listing under paragraph

  (a), which has a wait period of 30 calendar days or less for a

minimum-risk nonresidential, low-risk residential, moderate-risk residential, or high-risk residential commitment program or a wait period of 20 calendar days or less for a maximum-risk residential commitment program; or

- 2. Alternatively, a delinquency court may specify:
- a. An available placement with a wait period in excess of those identified in subparagraph 1., if the court states reasons on the record establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that the available placement is in the youth's best interest; or
- b. A commitment program that is not listed as an available placement, if the court states reasons on the record establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that the youth is eligible for the commitment program and that the commitment program is in the youth's best interest.
- (5) When a delinquency court specifies an available placement or commitment program for a youth under paragraph (4)(b), the youth shall be placed, as specified by the court, when the next regularly scheduled opening occurs after the placement of other youth who were previously committed and waiting for that program.
- (6) (a) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall conduct a longitudinal evaluation of the pilot program created by this section and shall submit a written report to the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of the Legislature and to the Governor on January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, which identifies, according to judicial circuit and restrictiveness level, the

following data, as it becomes available, for the pilot program period:

- 1. The number of youth committed to the department by a delinquency court.
- 2. The number of youth placed by a delinquency court in an available placement under subparagraph (4)(b)1. and subsubparagraph (4)(b)2.a. and in a commitment program under subsubparagraph (4)(b)2.b.
- 3. The number of youth placed in a department-specified commitment program.
- 4. The average wait period for, and the average number of days spent by youth in secure detention while awaiting placement in, delinquency court-specified commitment programs and department-specified commitment programs.
- 5. The number of youth who complete, and who are otherwise released from, delinquency court-specified commitment programs and department-specified commitment programs.
- 6. Educational achievements made by youth while participating in delinquency court-specified commitment programs and department-specified commitment programs.
- 7. The number of youth who are taken into custody for a felony or misdemeanor within 6 months following completion of delinquency court-specified commitment programs and department-specified commitment programs.
  - (b) Before August 31, 2006:
- 1. The department, in consultation with the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, shall

Page 29 of 30

develop reporting protocols to collect and maintain data necessary for the report required by this subsection.

- 2. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, in consultation with staff of the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of the Legislature, shall develop common terminology and operational definitions for the measurement of data necessary for the report required by this subsection.
- (c) The reports required under paragraph (a) to be submitted on January 1, 2009, and January 1, 2010, must also include:
- 1. Findings by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, the department, and delinquency courts regarding the benefits and disadvantages of authorizing courts to select commitment programs.
- 2. Recommendations by the Office of Program Policy
  Analysis and Government Accountability, the department, and
  delinquency courts, if found to be warranted, for amendments to
  current statutes addressing commitment.
  - (7) This section is repealed effective July 1, 2010. Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Page 30 of 30