

1 time of entry into the program and must be or must have been
2 in foster care. The department may accept up to 50
3 participants into the pilot program. A participant will
4 continue to receive all foster care services, will remain
5 under continued court jurisdiction, and will remain in his or
6 her current foster or group home placement or another licensed
7 foster home arranged by the lead agency until he or she leaves
8 the pilot program or reaches 21 years of age, whichever occurs
9 first.

10 (2) The department or the lead agency must use the
11 independent living assessment tool referred to in s.
12 409.1451(4)(b)4., Florida Statutes, to assess each young adult
13 no later than 1 month after he or she reaches 17 years of age
14 to determine the young adult's specific needs and recommend
15 appropriate services. The independent living assessment tool
16 must be administered annually to determine the program's
17 effectiveness or lack thereof. The department or lead agency
18 must annually submit a report to the court as part of the
19 judicial review.

20 (3) The Department of Children and Family Services
21 shall select a cohort of up to 50 young adults who were
22 formerly in foster care, who were not eligible for the
23 Road-To-Independence Scholarship, and who live in a county
24 similar to Miami-Dade County and shall compare this cohort to
25 the participants in the pilot program by administering to them
26 the same independent living assessment tool.

27 (4) The department shall prepare an annual report and
28 submit it to the Legislature by January 31 of each year and
29 shall submit a final report by December 1, 2011. The annual
30 reports must compare the young adults in the pilot program to
31 the cohort selected under subsection (3). The final report

1 must include an analysis, including a fiscal analysis, and a
2 recommendation of the benefits and drawbacks of duplicating
3 the pilot program throughout the state.

4 (5) This section expires July 1, 2011.

5 Section 2. There is appropriated from the General
6 Revenue Fund to the Department of Children and Family
7 Services, District 11, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the sum
8 of \$500,000 to be used in implementing the pilot program
9 created under section 1 of this act. The department may
10 transfer funds appropriated in this section to the Agency for
11 Health Care Administration to fund the Medicaid cost of this
12 pilot program.

13 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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15 SENATE SUMMARY

16 Requires the Department of Children and Family Services
17 to create a pilot program in Miami-Dade County to provide
18 continued foster care until participants reach the age of
19 21 years. Provides eligibility requirements. Prescribes
20 services that will be continued. Requires the department
21 to submit a report to the court. Requires the selection
22 of a cohort group for the purpose of comparing results.
23 Requires reports to the Legislature. Provides for
24 expiration of the program.
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