

By Senator Hill

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to false reports of child abuse;
3 amending s. 39.402, F.S.; requiring a child to be
4 returned to a parent or guardian within 3 days
5 following a determination that an order for shelter
6 care was based on a false report of child abuse,
7 abandonment, or neglect; providing an effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Subsection (13) of section 39.402, Florida
12 Statutes, is amended to read:

13 39.402 Placement in a shelter.—

14 (13) A child may not be held in a shelter under an order so
15 directing for more than 60 days without an adjudication of
16 dependency. A child may not be held in a shelter for more than
17 30 days after the entry of an order of adjudication unless an
18 order of disposition has been entered by the court. A child may
19 not be held in a shelter for more than 3 days following a
20 determination that the order for shelter placement was based on
21 a false report and no other instance of abuse, neglect, or
22 abandonment was found during the protective investigation
23 resulting from the report. In such case, the child shall be
24 returned to the custody of the parent or legal custodian from
25 whom the child was removed.

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