



427032

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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Floor: 2/AD/2R	.	Floor: SENA2/C
05/01/2014 02:49 PM	.	05/02/2014 02:25 PM
	.	

Senator Sobel moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 555 and 556
insert:

Section 10. Section 409.997, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

409.997 Child welfare results-oriented accountability
program.—

(1) The department, the community-based care lead agencies,
and the lead agencies' subcontractors share the responsibility
for achieving the outcome goals specified in s. 409.986(2).



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12 (2) The department shall contract with a qualified
13 consultant or organization with expertise in child welfare by
14 August 31, 2014, to prepare a plan for development and
15 implementation of a comprehensive, results-oriented
16 accountability program consistent with this section. The plan,
17 which must be submitted to the Governor, the President of the
18 Senate, and the Speaker of the House by February 1, 2015, shall:

19 (a) Identify essential data sets;

20 (b) Assess the availability and validity of essential data;

21 (c) Propose options for aggregating the available data;

22 (d) Specify valid and reliable measures for each outcome
23 goal;

24 (e) Describe specific steps and analytical procedures
25 necessary for the computation of the outcome measures;

26 (f) Propose formats, presentations, and other methods of
27 disseminating the accountability information;

28 (g) Describe specific activities and procedures for
29 integrating the accountability information into the quality
30 assurance and performance monitoring activities of the
31 department and its child welfare partner organizations;

32 (h) Propose a timeline and work plan for implementation of
33 the accountability program and provide an estimate of associated
34 costs; and

35 (i) Identify any other significant considerations that may
36 have a material effect on the implementation of the
37 accountability program required by this section.

38
39 This subsection expires June 30, 2015.

40 (3) The purpose of the results-oriented accountability



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41 program is to monitor and measure the use of resources, the
42 quality and amount of services provided, and child and family
43 outcomes. The program includes data analysis, research review,
44 and evaluation. The program shall produce an assessment of
45 individual entities' performance, as well as the performance of
46 groups of entities working together on a local, regional, and
47 statewide basis to provide an integrated system of care. Data
48 analyzed and communicated through the accountability program
49 shall inform the department's development and maintenance of an
50 inclusive, interactive, and evidence-supported program of
51 quality improvement which promotes individual skill building as
52 well as organizational learning. Additionally, outcome data
53 generated by the program may be used as the basis for payment of
54 performance incentives if funds for such payments are made
55 available through the General Appropriations Act. The
56 information compiled and utilized in the accountability program
57 must incorporate, at a minimum:

58 (a) Valid and reliable outcome measures for each of the
59 goals specified in this subsection. The outcome data set must
60 consist of a limited number of understandable measures using
61 available data to quantify outcomes as children move through the
62 system of care. Such measures may aggregate multiple variables
63 that affect the overall achievement of the outcome goals. Valid
64 and reliable measures must be based on adequate sample sizes, be
65 gathered over suitable time periods, and reflect authentic
66 rather than spurious results, and may not be susceptible to
67 manipulation.

68 (b) Regular and periodic monitoring activities that track
69 the identified outcome measures on a statewide, regional, and



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70 provider-specific basis. Monitoring reports must identify trends
71 and chart progress toward achievement of the goals specified in
72 this subsection. The accountability program may not rank or
73 compare performance among community-based care regions unless
74 adequate and specific adjustments are adopted which account for
75 the diversity in regions' demographics, resources, and other
76 relevant characteristics. The requirements of the monitoring
77 program may be incorporated into the department's quality
78 assurance program.

79 (c) An analytical framework that builds on the results of
80 the outcomes monitoring procedures and assesses the statistical
81 validity of observed associations between child welfare
82 interventions and the measured outcomes. The analysis must use
83 quantitative methods to adjust for variations in demographic or
84 other conditions. The analysis must include longitudinal studies
85 to evaluate longer term outcomes, such as continued safety,
86 family permanence, and transition to self-sufficiency. The
87 analysis may also include qualitative research methods to
88 provide insight into statistical patterns.

89 (d) A program of research review to identify interventions
90 that are supported by evidence as causally linked to improved
91 outcomes.

92 (e) An ongoing process of evaluation to determine the
93 efficacy and effectiveness of various interventions. Efficacy
94 evaluation is intended to determine the validity of a causal
95 relationship between an intervention and an outcome.
96 Effectiveness evaluation is intended to determine the extent to
97 which the results can be generalized.

98 (f) Procedures for making the results of the accountability



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99 program transparent for all parties involved in the child
100 welfare system as well as policymakers and the public, which
101 shall be updated at least quarterly and published on the
102 department's website in a manner that allows custom searches of
103 the performance data. The presentation of the data shall provide
104 a comprehensible, visual report card for the state and each
105 community-based care region, indicating the current status of
106 the outcomes relative to each goal and trends in that status
107 over time. The presentation shall identify and report outcome
108 measures that assess the performance of the department, the
109 community-based care lead agencies, and their subcontractors
110 working together to provide an integrated system of care.

111 (g) An annual performance report that is provided to
112 interested parties including the dependency judge or judges in
113 the community-based care service area. The report shall be
114 submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
115 Speaker of the House of Representatives by October 1 of each
116 year.

117 (4) Subject to a specific appropriation to implement the
118 accountability program developed under subsection (2), the
119 department shall establish a technical advisory panel consisting
120 of representatives from the Florida Institute for Child Welfare
121 established pursuant to s. 1004.615, lead agencies, community-
122 based care providers, other contract providers, community
123 alliances, and family representatives. The President of the
124 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
125 each appoint a member to serve as a legislative liaison to the
126 panel. The technical advisory panel shall advise the department
127 on the implementation of the results-oriented accountability



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128 program.

129 Section 11. In the event that SB 1666 or similar
130 legislation is passed during the 2014 Legislative Session and
131 becomes law, and such legislation creates s. 409.997, Florida
132 Statutes, the provisions of this act which create s. 409.997,
133 Florida Statutes, shall supersede the provisions of SB 1666. For
134 the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the recurring sum of \$4.8 million is
135 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to implement s.
136 39.5085(2)(a)3., Florida Statutes, as part of the Relative
137 Caregiver Program as provided in SB 1666, if such legislation or
138 similar legislation is passed during the 2014 Legislative
139 Session and becomes law. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the
140 recurring sum of \$400,000 is appropriated from the General
141 Revenue Fund for travel, per diem, and other expenses for the
142 critical incident rapid response teams created pursuant to s.
143 39.2015, Florida Statutes, as provided in SB 1666, if such
144 legislation or similar legislation is passed during the 2014
145 Legislative Session and becomes law. Two full-time equivalent
146 positions, associated salary rate of 171,500, along with the
147 recurring sum of \$257,670 and nonrecurring sum of \$7,330 are
148 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to establish the
149 assistant secretary and administrative support positions as
150 provided in SB 1666, if such legislation or similar legislation
151 is passed during the 2014 Legislative Session and becomes law.
152 There is also appropriated the nonrecurring sums from the
153 General Revenue Fund of \$500,000 for the Student Loan
154 Forgiveness Program as provided in SB 1666, if such legislation
155 or similar legislation is passed during the 2014 Legislative
156 Session and becomes law, and \$300,000 to contract for child



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157 welfare results-oriented accountability system outcomes as
158 provided in this act.

159
160 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

161 And the title is amended as follows:

162 Between lines 51 and 52

163 insert:

164 creating s. 409.997, F.S.; requiring the department to
165 contract with a specified entity to prepare a plan for
166 the development and implementation of a comprehensive,
167 results-oriented accountability program; requiring the
168 plan to be submitted to the Governor and the
169 Legislature by a specified date; providing
170 requirements for the plan and the program; requiring
171 the department to establish a technical advisory panel
172 consisting of specified representatives; providing
173 appropriations and authorizing positions;