

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Harrell offered the following:

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

4 Remove lines 201-223 and insert:

5 Section 4. Effective July 1, 2017, section 741.281,

6 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

7 741.281 Court to order batterers' intervention program and
8 parenting course attendance.—If a person is found guilty of, has
9 adjudication withheld on, or pleads nolo contendere to a crime
10 of domestic violence, as defined in s. 741.28, that person shall
11 be ordered by the court to a minimum term of 1 year's probation
12 and the court shall order that the defendant attend and complete
13 a batterers' intervention program, and if a crime of domestic
14 violence was committed upon or in the presence of a child, a

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15 parenting course, as a condition of probation. Attendance at an
16 online or a correspondence program or course does not meet the
17 requirements of this section. The court must impose the
18 condition of the batterers' intervention program and parenting
19 course for a defendant under this section, but the court, in its
20 discretion, may determine not to impose the condition if it
21 states on the record why a batterers' intervention program or
22 parenting course is ~~might be~~ inappropriate. The court must
23 impose the condition of the batterers' intervention program for
24 a defendant placed on probation unless the court determines that
25 the person does not qualify for the batterers' intervention
26 program pursuant to s. 741.325. The imposition of probation
27 under this section does not preclude the court from imposing any
28 sentence of imprisonment authorized by s. 775.082.

29 Section 5. (1) The Legislature finds that traditional
30 parenting courses focus on child behavioral management
31 techniques and presume a basic level of cooperation and
32 consistency between parents that are not present when there is
33 domestic violence. A parenting course specifically for batterers
34 must recognize and address the abuse of the victim parent, and
35 the direct, adverse impact that perpetrating violence has on the
36 child and the batterer's ability to parent.

37 (2) The Department of Children and Families, in
38 consultation with the Florida Coalition Against Domestic
39 Violence, shall form a work group to develop standards for a
40 parenting course for batterers. Members of the work group shall

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41 include a representative of the department's Office of Domestic
 42 Violence selected by the department, a representative of the
 43 coalition selected by the coalition, a representative of a
 44 coordinated community care agency selected by the department,
 45 and an expert in effective interventions with batterers selected
 46 by the department.

47 (3) The work group shall develop recommendations for
 48 standards for parenting courses for batterers which would
 49 require, at a minimum, 17 weekly in-person sessions and include
 50 in the course curriculum characteristics of a healthy and
 51 nonabusive parent, short-term and long-term impacts of a
 52 perpetrator's violence on children, coparenting and refraining
 53 from undermining a victim's parenting, modeling nonabusive
 54 behavior for children, appropriate discipline strategies, and
 55 rebuilding trust with children.

56 (4) The work group shall submit a report of its
 57 recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
 58 of the House of Representatives by February 15, 2017, and shall
 59 be dissolved upon submission of the report.

60 (5) This section expires June 30, 2017.

61
 62 Remove line 379 and insert:
 63 Section 9. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
 64 act, this act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

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

Remove lines 13-16 and insert:
persons; amending s. 741.281, F.S.; requiring that a person who commits a crime of domestic violence in the presence of a child be required to take a parenting course as a condition of probation; providing an exception; excluding certain course delivery methods; creating a work group to submit to the Legislature a report of recommendations for standards for parenting courses for batterers; providing requirements for such standards; providing for dissolution of the work group; providing for expiration; amending s.

Remove line 24 and insert:
offenses; providing effective dates.

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