LEGISLATIVE ACTION
Senate
House
Comm: RCS
01/23/2017

The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Bean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 36 - 88
and insert:
Section 1. Section 409.1454, Florida Statutes, is amended, to read:
409.1454 MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE AND DRIVER LICENSES FOR CHILDREN IN CARE.-
(1) The Legislature finds that the costs of driver education, licensure and costs incidental to licensure, and

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motor vehicle insurance for a child in out-of-home care after such child obtains a driver license create ereates an additional barrier to engaging in normal age-appropriate activities and gaining independence and may limit opportunities for obtaining employment and completing educational goals. The Legislature also finds that the completion of an approved driver education course is necessary to develop safe driving skills.
(2) To the extent that funding is available, the department shall establish a 3-year pilot program to pay the cost of driver education, licensure and other costs incidental to licensure, and motor vehicle insurance for children in tieensed out-of-home care who have successfully completed a driver education program.
(3) If a caregiver, or an individual or not-for-profit entity approved by the caregiver, adds a child to his or her existing insurance policy, the amount paid to the caregiver or approved purchaser may not exceed the increase in cost attributable to the addition of the child to the policy.
(4) Payment shall be made to eligible recipients in the order of eligibility until available funds are exhausted. If a child determined to be eligible reaches permanency status or turns 18 years of age, the program may pay for that child to complete a driver education program and obtain a driver license for up to 6 months after the date the child reaches permanency status or 6 months after the date the child turns 18 years of age. A child continuing in care under s. 39.6251 may be eligible to have the costs of licensure and costs incidental to licensure paid if the child demonstrates that such costs are creating barriers for obtaining employment or completing educational goals.

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(5) The department shall contract with a not-for-profit entity whose mission is to support youth aging out of foster care to develop procedures for operating and administering the pilot program, including, but not limited to:
(a) Determining eligibility, including responsibilities for the child and caregivers.
(b) Developing application and payment forms.
(c) Notifying eligible children, caregivers, group homes, and residential programs of the pilot program.
(d) Providing technical assistance to lead agencies, providers, group homes, and residential programs to support removing obstacles that prevent children in foster care from driving.
(e) Publicizing the program, engaging in outreach, and
================== T I T L A M E N D M E N T ================= And the title is amended as follows:

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    Delete lines 3 - 8
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and insert:
amending s. 409.1454, F.S.; revising legislative findings; revising a pilot program to make it permanent; revising the applicability of the program to include children in out-of-home care; authorizing the

