

By Senator Brandes

24-00868B-18

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to persons authorized to visit state
3 juvenile facilities; creating s. 985.6885, F.S.;
4 authorizing specified persons to visit, during certain
5 hours, all state facilities housing juveniles which
6 are operated or overseen by the Department of Juvenile
7 Justice; authorizing such persons to visit the state
8 juvenile facilities outside of certain hours according
9 to department rules; prohibiting other persons from
10 visiting such facilities except according to
11 department rules; prohibiting the department from
12 unreasonably withholding permission for visits to such
13 facilities by certain persons; providing an effective
14 date.

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

18 Section 1. Section 985.6885, Florida Statutes, is created
19 to read:

20 985.6885 Persons authorized to visit state juvenile
21 facilities.-

22 (1) The following persons may visit at their pleasure
23 between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. all state facilities
24 housing juveniles which are operated or overseen by the
25 department:

26 (a) The Governor.

27 (b) A Cabinet member.

28 (c) A member of the Legislature.

29 (d) A judge of a state court.

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30 (e) A state attorney.

31 (f) A public defender.

32 (g) An authorized representative of the Florida Commission
33 on Offender Review.

34 (h) A person authorized by the secretary of the department.

35 (2) A person specified in subsection (1) may visit a
36 facility subject to this section before 6 a.m. or after 11 p.m.
37 under rules that the department may prescribe.

38 (3) A person not otherwise authorized by law may not visit
39 a facility subject to this section except under rules that the
40 department may prescribe.

41 (4) The department may not unreasonably withhold permission
42 to visit a facility subject to this section from a person who
43 gives sufficient evidence that he or she is a bona fide reporter
44 or writer.

45 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.