

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN (Y/N)
OTHER

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Health Care Appropriations
2 Subcommittee

3 Representative Perez offered the following:

4
5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 Section 1. Section 39.4015, Florida Statutes, is created
8 to read:

9 39.4015 Family finding.-

10 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.-

11 (a) The Legislature finds that every child who is in out-
12 of-home care has the goal of finding a permanent home, whether
13 achieved by reunifying the child with his or her parents or
14 finding another permanent connection, such as adoption or legal
15 guardianship with a relative or nonrelative who has a
16 significant relationship with the child.

Amendment No. 1

17 (b) The Legislature finds that while legal permanency is
18 important to a child in out-of-home care, emotional permanency
19 helps increase the likelihood that children will achieve
20 stability and well-being and successfully transition to
21 independent adulthood.

22 (c) The Legislature also finds that research has
23 consistently shown that placing a child within his or her own
24 family reduces the trauma of being removed from his or her home,
25 is less likely to result in placement disruptions, and enhances
26 prospects for finding a permanent family if the child cannot
27 return home.

28 (d) The Legislature further finds that the primary purpose
29 of family finding is to facilitate legal and emotional
30 permanency for children who are in out-of-home care by finding
31 and engaging their relatives.

32 (e) It is the intent of the Legislature that every child
33 in out-of-home care be afforded the advantages that can be
34 gained from the use of family finding to establish caring and

35
36 -----
37 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

38 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:
39 An act relating to child welfare; creating s. 39.4015, F.S.;
40 providing legislative findings and intent; providing
41 definitions; requiring the Department of Children and Families,

Amendment No. 1

42 in collaboration with sheriffs' offices that conduct child
43 protective investigations and community-based care lead
44 agencies, to develop a statewide family-finding program;
45 providing strategies to engage relatives and kin; providing for
46 the department and community-based care lead agencies to use
47 diligent efforts in family finding; providing that certain
48 actions do not constitute family finding; requiring the
49 department to adopt rules; amending s. 39.402, F.S.; requiring
50 the court to request that parents consent to providing access to
51 additional records; creating s. 39.5086, F.S.; providing the
52 purpose of a kinship navigator program; providing definitions;
53 authorizing each community-based care lead agency to establish a
54 kinship navigator program; providing requirements for programs;
55 allowing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 39.521,
56 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending
57 s. 39.6012, F.S.; revising the types of records that must be
58 attached to a case plan and updated throughout the judicial
59 review process; amending s. 39.604, F.S.; revising enrollment
60 and attendance requirements for children under protective
61 supervision or out-of-home care enrolled in an early education
62 or child care program; providing requirements and procedures for
63 maintaining the educational stability of a child during the
64 child's placement in out-of-home care, or subsequent changes in
65 out-of-home placement; requiring that a child's transition from

Amendment No. 1

66 | a child care or early education program be pursuant to a plan
67 | that meets certain requirements; providing an effective date.