

By Senator Bracy

11-00258-18

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to serving commercially sexually  
3       exploited children; amending s. 409.1754, F.S.;  
4       requiring the Department of Children and Families to  
5       collect certain data; requiring the department to  
6       gather feedback on the efficiency of screening and  
7       assessment instruments from users and to review such  
8       feedback annually; requiring the department to improve  
9       such instruments that remain invalidated; requiring  
10      each region of the department and each community-based  
11      care lead agency to establish a plan to recruit  
12      providers of specialized services to commercially  
13      sexually exploited children and to increase the  
14      service capacity of existing providers in order to  
15      develop the necessary capacity to meet the needs of  
16      commercially sexually exploited children; providing an  
17      effective date.

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

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21       Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and paragraph  
22      (c) of subsection (3) of section 409.1754, Florida Statutes, are  
23      amended to read:

24       409.1754 Commercial sexual exploitation of children;  
25      screening and assessment; training; multidisciplinary staffings;  
26      service plans.—

27       (1) SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT.—

28       (c) The department shall adopt rules that specify the  
29      initial screening and assessment instruments to be used and

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30 provide requirements for their use and for the reporting of data  
31 collected through their use. The department shall collect and  
32 enter data acquired through the use of such instruments into its  
33 electronic case management system to allow for a review of the  
34 efficiency of the instruments in order to determine their  
35 predictive value. The department shall gather systematic  
36 feedback from users of the instruments, including child  
37 protective investigators, case managers, and juvenile assessment  
38 centers, to improve the instruments. The department shall review  
39 such data and feedback at least once annually. Based on findings  
40 from its review, the department shall make improvements to the  
41 instruments at that time, unless the instruments have been  
42 validated as required in paragraph (b).

43 (3) TRAINING; LOCAL PROTOCOLS.—

44 (c) Each region of the department and each community-based  
45 care lead agency shall jointly assess local service capacity to  
46 meet the specialized service needs of commercially sexually  
47 exploited children and establish a plan to recruit providers of  
48 such specialized services and increase the service capacity of  
49 existing providers to develop the necessary capacity. Each plan  
50 shall be developed in consultation with community-based care  
51 lead agencies, local law enforcement officials, local school  
52 officials, runaway and homeless youth program providers, local  
53 probation departments, children's advocacy centers, guardians ad  
54 litem, public defenders, state attorneys' offices, safe houses,  
55 and child advocates and service providers who work directly with  
56 commercially sexually exploited children.

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