



409736

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/25/2020	.	
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services  
(Rouson) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)**

Between lines 733 and 734

insert:

(24) The department, in collaboration with the lead agencies serving the judicial circuits selected in paragraph (a), may create and implement a program to more effectively provide case management services for dependent children under 6 years of age.

(a) If the program is created, the department shall select



409736

11 up to three judicial circuits in which to develop and implement  
12 the program, with priority given to a circuit that has a high  
13 removal rate, significant case management turnover rate, and the  
14 highest numbers of children in out-of-home care or a significant  
15 increase in the number of children in out-of-home care over the  
16 last 3 fiscal years.

17 (b) If the program is created, it must do each of the  
18 following:

19 1. Include caseloads for dependency case managers comprised  
20 solely of children who are under 6 years of age, except as  
21 provided in paragraph (c). The maximum caseload for a case  
22 manager shall be no more than 15 children, if possible.

23 2. Include case managers who are trained specifically in:

24 a. Critical child development for children under 6 years of  
25 age;

26 b. Specific practices of child care for children under 6  
27 years of age;

28 c. The scope of community resources available to children  
29 under 6 years of age; and

30 d. Working with a parent or caregiver and assisting him or  
31 her in developing the skills necessary to care for the health,  
32 safety, and well-being of a child under 6 years of age.

33 (c) If a child being served through the program has a  
34 dependent sibling, the sibling may be assigned to the same case  
35 manager as the child being served through the program; however,  
36 each sibling counts toward the case manager's maximum caseload  
37 as provided under paragraph (b).

38 (d) If the program is created, the department shall  
39 evaluate the permanency, safety, and well-being of children



409736

40 being served through the program and submit a report to the  
41 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
42 House of Representatives by October 1, 2025, detailing its  
43 findings.

44  
45 ===== D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T =====

46 And the directory clause is amended as follows:

47 Delete line 719

48 and insert:

49 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (24) is added to that  
50 section, to read:

51  
52 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

53 And the title is amended as follows:

54 Delete line 64

55 and insert:

56 employed by the department; amending s. 409.996, F.S.;  
57 conforming a provision to changes made by the act;  
58 authorizing the department and certain lead agencies  
59 to create and implement a program to more effectively  
60 provide case management services to specified  
61 children; providing criteria for selecting judicial  
62 circuits for implementation of the program; specifying  
63 requirements of the program; requiring the department  
64 to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature  
65 by a specified date under specified conditions;  
66 amending s.