



689834

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/25/2022	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs  
(Rodriguez) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment**

Delete lines 63 - 83  
and insert:  
in s. 394.492(5) or (6) in a nonsecure, homelike setting.

(b) Whenever the department believes that a child in its  
legal custody is emotionally disturbed and may need residential  
treatment, an examination and suitability assessment must be  
conducted by a qualified evaluator ~~who is~~ appointed by the  
department ~~Agency for Health Care Administration~~. This



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11 suitability assessment must be completed before the placement of  
12 the child in a residential treatment program ~~center for~~  
13 ~~emotionally disturbed children and adolescents or a hospital.~~

14 1. The qualified evaluator for placement in a residential  
15 treatment center or a hospital must be a psychiatrist or a  
16 psychologist licensed in this state ~~Florida~~ who has at least 3  
17 years of experience in the diagnosis and treatment of serious  
18 emotional disturbances in children and adolescents and who has  
19 no actual or perceived conflict of interest with any inpatient  
20 facility or residential treatment center or program.

21 2. The qualified evaluator for placement in a therapeutic  
22 group home must be a psychiatrist licensed under chapter 458 or  
23 chapter 459, a