By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and Senator Book

586-02287-22 20221452c1

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to funding for sheriffs providing child protective investigative services; amending s. 39.3065, F.S.; authorizing sheriffs who provide child protective investigative services to carry forward a certain percentage of unexpended state funds each fiscal year; requiring certain funds to be returned to the Department of Children and Families; prohibiting funds carried forward from being used in certain ways; requiring that certain expenditures be reported to the department; authorizing unexpended funds to be retained through contract or grant agreement renewals under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 39.3065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.3065 Sheriffs of certain counties to provide child protective investigative services; procedures; funding.—

(3)

(c) Funds for providing child protective investigations must be identified in the annual appropriation made to the department, which shall award grants for the full amount identified to the respective sheriffs' offices. Notwithstanding ss. 216.181(16)(b) and 216.351, the department may advance payments to the sheriffs for child protective investigations. \underline{A} sheriff may carry forward documented unexpended state funds from

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586-02287-22 20221452c1 one fiscal year to the next. However, the cumulative amount of state funds carried forward may not exceed 8 percent of each sheriff's office total contract amount or grant agreement amount. Any unexpended state funds in excess of that amount and all unexpended federal funds must be returned to the department. The funds carried forward may not be used to create increased recurring future obligations or for any type of program or service that is not currently authorized by the existing contract or grant agreement with the department. The expenditure of funds carried forward must be separately reported to the department. Funds carried forward may be retained through a contract or grant agreement renewal and any new procurements as long as the same sheriff's office is retained by the department. All unexpended funds at the expiration of the contract or grant agreement must be returned to the department. Funds for the child protective investigations may not be integrated into the sheriffs' regular budgets. Budgetary data and other data relating to the performance of child protective investigations must be maintained separately from all other records of the sheriffs' offices and reported to the department as specified in the grant agreement.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.