

ENROLLED

CS/CS/HB 963, Engrossed 1

2022 Legislature

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An act relating to funding for sheriffs; 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; requiring certain funds to be returned to the department; 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. A

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26 | sheriff may carry forward documented unexpended state funds from  
27 | one fiscal year to the next. However, the cumulative amount of  
28 | state funds carried forward may not exceed 8 percent of the  
29 | sheriff's office total contract amount or grant agreement  
30 | amount. Any unexpended state funds in excess of that amount and  
31 | all unexpended federal funds must be returned to the department.  
32 | The funds carried forward may not be used to create increased  
33 | recurring future obligations or for any type of program or  
34 | service that is not currently authorized by the existing  
35 | contract or grant award agreement with the department. The  
36 | expenditure of funds carried forward must be separately reported  
37 | to the department. A sheriff must return all unexpended funds to  
38 | the department if that sheriff's office will no longer be  
39 | providing child protective investigations. Funds for the child  
40 | protective investigations may not be integrated into the  
41 | sheriffs' regular budgets. Budgetary data and other data  
42 | relating to the performance of child protective investigations  
43 | must be maintained separately from all other records of the  
44 | sheriffs' offices and reported to the department as specified in  
45 | the grant award agreement.

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