1	A bill to be entitled							
2	An act relating to children removed from caregivers;							
3	amending s. 409.988, F.S.; requiring community-based							
4	care lead agencies, in coordination with the local							
5	managing entity, to administer a validated trauma-							
6	focused screening within a specified timeframe to							
7	children removed from certain caregivers; providing							
8	requirements for such screening and therapy, if							
9	9 recommended; requiring such agencies to offer							
10	voluntary trauma screening and appropriate services to							
11	children and their families under certain							
12	circumstances; amending s. 409.996, F.S.; requiring							
13	3 the Department of Children and Families to require in							
14	its contracts with community-based care lead agencies							
15	that such agencies and managing entities coordinate to							
16	administer a validated trauma-focused screening within							
17	a specified timeframe to children removed from certain							
18	caregivers; conforming a cross-reference; providing an							
19	effective date.							
20								
21	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:							
22								
23	Section 1. Paragraphs (b) through (n) of subsection (1) of							
24	section 409.988, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as							
25	paragraphs (c) through (o), respectively, and a new paragraph							
Page 1 of 4								

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2023

26 (b) is added to that subsection to read: 27 409.988 Community-based care lead agency duties; general 28 provisions.-29 (1) DUTIES.—A lead agency: 30 (b)1. Shall, in coordination with the local managing entity, administer a validated trauma-focused screening to a 31 32 child removed from his or her parent, legal custodian, or 33 caregiver to ensure that any trauma related to the child's 34 removal is timely identified, if present, and that the child is 35 promptly referred to appropriate trauma services, including clinical evaluation and intervention, if needed. The trauma-36 37 focused screening must occur as soon as practicable subsequent to the child's removal but no later than 14 days after the 38 39 shelter hearing. The screening and therapy, if recommended, must 40 evaluate and address the impact of the removal to the child. 41 2. Shall offer voluntary trauma screening and appropriate 42 trauma services to a child and his or her family in the event 43 that a shelter petition is denied and the child is returned to 44 his or her parent, legal custodian, or caregiver. 45 Section 2. Paragraphs (b) through (f) of subsection (1) of 46 section 409.996, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as 47 paragraphs (c) through (g), respectively, paragraph (b) of 48 subsection (4) is amended, and a new paragraph (b) is added to 49 subsection (1) of that section, to read: 409.996 Duties of the Department of Children and 50

Page 2 of 4

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2023

51 Families.-The department shall contract for the delivery, 52 administration, or management of care for children in the child 53 protection and child welfare system. In doing so, the department retains responsibility for the quality of contracted services 54 55 and programs and shall ensure that, at a minimum, services are 56 delivered in accordance with applicable federal and state 57 statutes and regulations and the performance standards and 58 metrics specified in the strategic plan created under s. 59 20.19(1). The department shall enter into contracts with lead 60 (1)61 agencies for the performance of the duties by the lead agencies established in s. 409.988. At a minimum, the contracts must do 62 all of the following: 63 64 (b) Require lead agencies and managing entities to coordinate to administer a validated trauma-focused screening to 65 66 a child removed from his or her parent, legal custodian, or

67 <u>caregiver to ensure that any trauma related to the child's</u> 68 <u>removal is timely identified, if present, and that the child is</u> 69 <u>promptly referred to appropriate trauma services, including</u> 70 <u>clinical evaluation and intervention, if needed, as required by</u> 71 <u>s. 409.988(1)(b).</u> 72 (4)

(b) The department shall collect and publish on its
website, and update monthly, the information required under <u>s.</u>
<u>409.988(1)(1)</u> <u>s. 409.988(1)(k)</u>.

Page 3 of 4

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2023

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76		Section	3.	This	act	shall	take	effect	July	1,	2023.	
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	Page 4 of 4											

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