



713300

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/14/2023	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs  
(Yarborough) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Present paragraphs (b) through (n) of subsection  
(1) of section 409.988, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
paragraphs (c) through (o), respectively, and a new paragraph  
(b) is added to that subsection, to read:

409.988 Community-based care lead agency duties; general  
provisions.—



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11 (1) DUTIES.—A lead agency:

12 (b)1. Shall, in coordination with the local managing  
13 entity, administer a validated trauma-focused screening to a  
14 child removed from his or her parent, legal custodian, or  
15 caregiver to ensure any trauma related to the child's removal is  
16 timely identified, if present, and that the child is referred  
17 promptly to appropriate trauma services, including clinical  
18 evaluation and intervention if needed. The trauma-focused  
19 screening must occur as soon as practicable subsequent to the  
20 child's removal but no later than 14 days after the shelter  
21 hearing. The screening and therapy, if recommended, must  
22 evaluate and address the impact of the removal to the child.

23 2. Shall offer voluntary trauma screening and appropriate  
24 trauma services to a child and his or her family in the event  
25 that a shelter petition is denied and the child is returned to  
26 his or her parent, legal custodian, or caregiver.

27 Section 2. Present paragraphs (b) through (f) of subsection  
28 (1) of section 409.996, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
29 paragraphs (c) through (g), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is  
30 added to that subsection, and paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of  
31 that section is amended, to read:

32 409.996 Duties of the Department of Children and Families.—  
33 The department shall contract for the delivery, administration,  
34 or management of care for children in the child protection and  
35 child welfare system. In doing so, the department retains  
36 responsibility for the quality of contracted services and  
37 programs and shall ensure that, at a minimum, services are  
38 delivered in accordance with applicable federal and state  
39 statutes and regulations and the performance standards and



40 metrics specified in the strategic plan created under s.  
41 20.19(1).

42 (1) The department shall enter into contracts with lead  
43 agencies for the performance of the duties by the lead agencies  
44 established in s. 409.988. At a minimum, the contracts must do  
45 all of the following:

46 (b) Require lead agencies and managing entities to  
47 coordinate to administer a validated trauma-focused screening to  
48 a child removed from his or her parent, legal custodian, or  
49 caregiver to ensure any trauma related to the child's removal is  
50 timely identified, if present, and that the child is referred  
51 promptly to appropriate trauma services, including clinical  
52 evaluation and intervention if needed as required by s.  
53 409.988(1)(b).

54 (4)

55 (b) The department shall collect and publish on its  
56 website, and update monthly, the information required under s.  
57 409.988(1)(l) ~~s. 409.988(1)(k)~~.

58 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

59 And the title is amended as follows:

60 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
61 and insert:

62 A bill to be entitled  
63 An act relating to children removed from caregivers;  
64 amending s. 409.988, F.S.; requiring community-based  
65 care lead agencies, in coordination with the local  
66 managing entity, to administer a trauma-focused  
67 screening within a specified timeframe to children  
68 removed from certain caregivers; specifying



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69 requirements of the screening and therapy, if  
70 recommended; requiring community-based care lead  
71 agencies to offer voluntary trauma screening and  
72 services under certain circumstances; amending s.  
73 409.996, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children  
74 and Families to require in its contracts with the  
75 community-based care lead agencies that such agencies  
76 and managing entities administer a trauma-focused  
77 screening within a specified timeframe to children  
78 removed from certain caregivers; conforming a cross-  
79 reference; providing an effective date.