1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to correctional facilities; amending 3 s. 944.35, F.S.; providing definitions; prohibiting 4 sexual misconduct by any volunteer in, or any employee 5 of a contractor or subcontractor of, the Department of 6 Corrections or a private correctional facility; 7 providing criminal penalties; providing applicability; 8 transferring all powers, duties, functions, records, 9 offices, personnel, associated administrative support positions, property, pending issues and existing 10 11 contracts, administrative authority, trust funds, and 12 unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, 13 and other funds of the Bureau of Private Prison Monitoring to the Department of Corrections; 14 15 prohibiting a specified transfer from affecting 16 specified agreements and instruments in existence; 17 providing that specified obligations are valid and 18 binding; amending s. 287.042, F.S.; deleting 19 provisions relating to powers and duties of the Department of Management Services concerning private 20 21 correctional facilities; amending s. 394.9151, F.S.; 22 authorizing the Department of Children and Families to 23 contract with the Department of Corrections, rather 24 than the Department of Management Services, for the operation of facilities for sexually violent 25

Page 1 of 21

26 predators; amending s. 943.13, F.S.; conforming 27 provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss. 28 944.02, 944.115, 944.72, 944.8041, and 945.215, F.S.; 29 requiring the Department of Corrections to assume specified duties and responsibilities of the 30 31 Department of Management Services; amending ss. 32 957.04, 957.06, 957.07, 957.08, 957.14, 957.15, and 33 957.16, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by 34 the act; providing an effective date. 35 36 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 37 38 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 39 944.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 944.35 Authorized use of force; malicious battery and 40 41 sexual misconduct prohibited; reporting required; penalties. -42 (3)43 (b)1.As used in this paragraph, the term: 44 "Female genitals" includes the labia minora, labia 45 majora, clitoris, vulva, hymen, and vagina. 46 b. "Private correctional facility" has the same meaning as 47 in s. 944.710. 48 c.b. "Sexual misconduct" means the oral, anal, or female 49 genital penetration by, or union with, the sexual organ of another or the anal or female genital penetration of another by 50

Page 2 of 21

any other object, but does not include an act done for a bona fide medical purpose or an internal search conducted in the lawful performance of the employee's duty.

- d. "Volunteer" means a person registered with the department or a private correctional facility who is engaged in specific voluntary service activities on an ongoing or continual basis.
- 2. Any employee of the department or a private correctional facility or any volunteer in, or any employee of a contractor or subcontractor of, the department or a private correctional facility as defined in s. 944.710 who engages in sexual misconduct with an inmate or an offender supervised by the department in the community, without committing the crime of sexual battery, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- 3. The consent of the inmate or offender supervised by the department in the community to any act of sexual misconduct may not be raised as a defense to a prosecution under this paragraph.
- 4. This paragraph does not apply to any employee, volunteer, or employee of a contractor or subcontractor of the department or any employee, volunteer, or employee of a contractor or subcontractor of a private correctional facility who is legally married to an inmate or an offender supervised by the department in the community, nor does it apply to any

Page 3 of 21

employee, volunteer, or employee of a contractor or subcontractor who has no knowledge, and would have no reason to believe, that the person with whom the employee, volunteer, or employee of a contractor or subcontractor has engaged in sexual misconduct is an inmate or an offender under community supervision of the department.

Section 2. (1) All powers; duties; functions; records; offices; personnel; associated administrative support positions; property; pending issues and existing contracts; administrative authority; trust funds; and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds of the Bureau of Private Prison Monitoring are transferred by a type two transfer pursuant to s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, to the Department of Corrections.

(2) In no way shall the transfer under this act affect any existing agreements, bonds, certificates of participation, or other instruments of indebtedness entered into by the Department of Management Services. All undertakings of the Department of Management Services in connection with the issuance of certificates of participation and the obligations to make rent payments thereunder to the Florida Correctional Financing Corporation are validated and shall continue to be valid and binding on the Department of Corrections in accordance with their respective terms, conditions, and covenants.

Section 3. Subsection (17) of section 287.042, Florida

Page 4 of 21

101 Statutes, is amended to read: 102 287.042 Powers, duties, and functions.-The department 103 shall have the following powers, duties, and functions: 104 (17) (a) To enter into contracts pursuant to chapter 957 105 for the designing, financing, acquiring, leasing, constructing, or operating of private correctional facilities. The department 106 107 shall enter into a contract or contracts with one contractor per facility for the designing, acquiring, financing, leasing, 108 109 constructing, and operating of that facility or may, if specifically authorized by the Legislature, separately contract 110 111 for any such services. (b) To manage and enforce compliance with existing or 112 113 future contracts entered into pursuant to chapter 957. 114 115 The department may not delegate the responsibilities conferred 116 by this subsection. 117 Section 4. Section 394.9151, Florida Statutes, is amended 118 to read: 394.9151 Contract authority.-The Department of Children 119 120 and Families may contract with a private entity or state agency 121 for use of and operation of facilities to comply with the 122 requirements of this act. The Department of Children and 123 Families may also contract with the Department of Corrections 124 Management Services to issue a request for proposals and monitor

Page 5 of 21

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

contract compliance for these services.

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Section 5. Section 943.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 943.13 Officers' minimum qualifications for employment or appointment.—On or after October 1, 1984, any person employed or appointed as a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary law enforcement officer or correctional officer; on or after October 1, 1986, any person employed as a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary correctional probation officer; and on or after October 1, 1986, any person employed as a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary correctional officer by a private entity under contract to the Department of Corrections or, to a county commission, or to the Department of Management Services shall:
- (1) Be at least 19 years of age, except that any person employed as a full-time, a part-time, or an auxiliary correctional officer must be at least 18 years of age.
- (2) Be a citizen of the United States, notwithstanding any law of the state to the contrary.
- (3) Be a high school graduate or its "equivalent" as the commission has defined the term by rule.
- (4) Not have been convicted of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving perjury or a false statement, or have received a dishonorable discharge from any of the Armed Forces of the United States. Any person who, after July 1, 1981, pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or is found guilty of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving perjury or a false statement is not

Page 6 of 21

eligible for employment or appointment as an officer, notwithstanding suspension of sentence or withholding of adjudication. Notwithstanding this subsection, any person who has pled nolo contendere to a misdemeanor involving a false statement, prior to December 1, 1985, and has had such record sealed or expunged shall not be deemed ineligible for employment or appointment as an officer.

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Have documentation of his or her processed fingerprints on file with the employing agency or, if a private correctional officer, have documentation of his or her processed fingerprints on file with the Department of Corrections or the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission. The department shall retain and enter into the statewide automated biometric identification system authorized by s. 943.05 all fingerprints submitted to the department as required by this section. Thereafter, the fingerprints shall be available for all purposes and uses authorized for arrest fingerprints entered in the statewide automated biometric identification system pursuant to s. 943.051. The department shall search all arrest fingerprints received pursuant to s. 943.051 against the fingerprints retained in the statewide automated biometric identification system pursuant to this section and report to the employing agency any arrest records that are identified with the retained employee's fingerprints. These fingerprints must be forwarded to the department for processing and retention.

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- Have passed a physical examination by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse, based on specifications established by the commission. In order to be eligible for the presumption set forth in s. 112.18 while employed with an employing agency, a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer must have successfully passed the physical examination required by this subsection upon entering into service as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer with the employing agency, which examination must have failed to reveal any evidence of tuberculosis, heart disease, or hypertension. A law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer may not use a physical examination from a former employing agency for purposes of claiming the presumption set forth in s. 112.18 against the current employing agency. The employing agency must maintain records of the physical examination for at least 5 years after the employee's separation from the employing agency. If the employing agency fails to maintain the records of the physical examination for the 5-year period after the employee's separation, it is presumed that the employee has met the requirements of this subsection.
- (7) Have a good moral character as determined by a background investigation under procedures established by the commission.

Page 8 of 21

- (8) Execute and submit to the employing agency or, if a private correctional officer, submit to the appropriate governmental entity an affidavit-of-applicant form, adopted by the commission, attesting to his or her compliance with subsections (1)-(7). The affidavit shall require the applicant to disclose any pending investigation by a local, state, or federal agency or entity for criminal, civil, or administrative wrongdoing and whether the applicant separated or resigned from previous criminal justice employment while he or she was under investigation. The affidavit shall be executed under oath and constitutes an official statement within the purview of s. 837.06. The affidavit shall include conspicuous language that the intentional false execution of the affidavit constitutes a misdemeanor of the second degree. The affidavit shall be retained by the employing agency.
- (9) Complete a commission-approved basic recruit training program for the applicable criminal justice discipline, unless exempt under this subsection. An applicant who has:
- (a) Completed a comparable basic recruit training program for the applicable criminal justice discipline in another state or for the Federal Government and served as a full-time sworn officer in another state or for the Federal Government for at least 1 year, provided there is no more than an 8-year break in employment, as measured from the separation date of the most recent qualifying employment to the time a complete application

for an exemption under this subsection is submitted; or

(b) Served in the special operations forces for a minimum of 5 years, provided there is no more than a 4-year break from the applicant's special operations forces experience, as measured from the separation date from the special operations forces to the time a complete application for an exemption under this subsection is submitted,

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is exempt in accordance with s. 943.131(2) from completing the commission-approved basic recruit training program.

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(10) Achieve an acceptable score on the officer certification examination for the applicable criminal justice discipline.

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(11) Comply with the continuing training or education requirements of s. 943.135.

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Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 944.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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944.02 Definitions.—The following words and phrases used in this chapter shall, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, have the following meanings:

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(4) "Elderly offender" means a prisoner age 50 or older in a state correctional institution or facility operated by the Department of Corrections or the Department of Management Services.

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Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section

Page 10 of 21

251 944.115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
252 944.115 Smoking prohibited inside state correctional

facilities.-

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- (2) As used in this section, the term:
- (b) "Employee" means an employee of the department or a private vendor in a contractual relationship with either the department of Corrections or the Department of Management Services, and includes persons such as contractors, volunteers, or law enforcement officers who are within a state correctional facility to perform a professional service.
- Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 944.72, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 944.72 Privately Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund.—
- (1) There is hereby created in the department of Corrections the Privately Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund. The purpose of the trust fund shall be the benefit and welfare of inmates incarcerated in private correctional facilities under contract with the department pursuant to this chapter or the Department of Management Services pursuant to chapter 957. Moneys shall be deposited in the trust fund and expenditures made from the trust fund as provided in s. 945.215.
- Section 9. Section 944.8041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 275 944.8041 Elderly offenders; annual review.—For the purpose

Page 11 of 21

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of providing information to the Legislature on elderly offenders within the correctional system, the department and the Correctional Medical Authority shall each submit annually a report on the status and treatment of elderly offenders in the state-administered and private state correctional systems and the department's geriatric facilities and dorms. In order to adequately prepare the reports, the department and the Department of Management Services shall grant access to the Correctional Medical Authority that includes access to the facilities, offenders, and any information the agencies require to complete their reports. The review shall also include an examination of promising geriatric policies, practices, and programs currently implemented in other correctional systems within the United States. The reports, with specific findings and recommendations for implementation, shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before December 31 of each year.

Section 10. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (3) of section 945.215, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 945.215 Inmate welfare and employee benefit trust funds.—
- (3) PRIVATELY OPERATED INSTITUTIONS INMATE WELFARE TRUST FUND; PRIVATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES.—
- (a) For purposes of this subsection, privately operated institutions or private correctional facilities are those correctional facilities under contract with the department

Page 12 of 21

pursuant to chapter 944 or the Department of Management Services pursuant to chapter 957.

- (c) The department of Management Services shall annually compile a report that documents Privately Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund receipts and expenditures at each private correctional facility. This report must specifically identify receipt sources and expenditures. The department of Management Services shall compile this report for the prior fiscal year and shall submit the report by September 1 of each year to the chairs of the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the Executive Office of the Governor.
- Section 11. Paragraphs (a), (b), (e), and (g) of subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection (2), and subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 957.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 957.04 Contract requirements.-

- (1) A contract entered into under this chapter for the operation of private correctional facilities shall maximize the cost savings of such facilities and shall:
- (a) Be negotiated with the firm found most qualified. However, a contract for private correctional services may not be entered into by the department of Management Services unless the department of Management Services determines that the contractor has demonstrated that it has:

Page 13 of 21

1. The qualifications, experience, and management personnel necessary to carry out the terms of the contract.

2. The ability to expedite the siting, design, and construction of correctional facilities.

- 3. The ability to comply with applicable laws, court orders, and national correctional standards.
- (b) Indemnify the state and the department, including their officials and agents, against any and all liability, including, but not limited to, civil rights liability. Proof of satisfactory insurance is required in an amount to be determined by the department of Management Services.
- (e) Establish operations standards for correctional facilities subject to the contract. However, if the department and the contractor disagree with an operations standard, the contractor may propose to waive any rule, policy, or procedure of the department related to the operations standards of correctional facilities which is inconsistent with the mission of the contractor to establish cost-effective, privately operated correctional facilities. The department of Management Services shall be responsible for considering all proposals from the contractor to waive any rule, policy, or procedure and shall render a final decision granting or denying such request.
- (g) Require the selection and appointment of a full-time contract monitor. The contract monitor shall be appointed and supervised by the department of Management Services. The

Page 14 of 21

contractor is required to reimburse the department of Management Services for the salary and expenses of the contract monitor. It is the obligation of the contractor to provide suitable office space for the contract monitor at the correctional facility. The contract monitor shall have unlimited access to the correctional facility.

- (2) Each contract entered into for the design and construction of a private correctional facility or juvenile commitment facility must include:
- (c) A specific provision requiring the contractor, and not the department of Management Services, to obtain the financing required to design and construct the private correctional facility or juvenile commitment facility built under this chapter.
- (5) Each contract entered into by the department of Management Services must include substantial minority participation unless demonstrated by evidence, after a good faith effort, as impractical and must also include any other requirements the department of Management Services considers necessary and appropriate for carrying out the purposes of this chapter.
- (6) Notwithstanding s. 253.025(9), the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund need not approve a lease-purchase agreement negotiated by the department of Management Services if the department of Management Services finds that

Page 15 of 21

there is a need to expedite the lease-purchase.

- (7)(a) Notwithstanding s. 253.025 or s. 287.057, whenever the department of Management Services finds it to be in the best interest of timely site acquisition, it may contract without the need for competitive selection with one or more appraisers whose names are contained on the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands of the Department of Environmental Protection in accordance with s. 253.025(8). In those instances when the department of Management Services directly contracts for appraisal services, it shall also contract with an approved appraiser who is not employed by the same appraisal firm for review services.
- (b) Notwithstanding s. 253.025(8), the department of Management Services may negotiate and enter into lease-purchase agreements before an appraisal is obtained. Any such agreement must state that the final purchase price cannot exceed the maximum value allowed by law.
- Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 957.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 957.06 Powers and duties not delegable to contractor.—A contract entered into under this chapter does not authorize, allow, or imply a delegation of authority to the contractor to:
- (2) Choose the facility to which an inmate is initially assigned or subsequently transferred. The contractor may request, in writing, that an inmate be transferred to a facility

Page 16 of 21

operated by the department. The Department of Management Services, the contractor, and the department and the contractor shall develop and implement a cooperative agreement for transferring inmates between a correctional facility operated by the department and a private correctional facility. The department, the Department of Management Services, and the contractor must comply with the cooperative agreement.

Section 13. Subsections (1) and (4) and paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 957.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

957.07 Cost-saving requirements.-

(1) The department of Management Services may not enter into a contract or series of contracts unless the department determines that the contract or series of contracts in total for the facility will result in a cost savings to the state of at least 7 percent over the public provision of a similar facility. Such cost savings as determined by the department of Management Services must be based upon the actual costs associated with the construction and operation of similar facilities or services as determined by the department of Corrections and certified by the Auditor General. The department of Corrections shall calculate all of the cost components that determine the inmate per diem in correctional facilities of a substantially similar size, type, and location that are operated by the department of Corrections, including administrative costs associated with central

Page 17 of 21

administration. Services that are provided to the department of Corrections by other governmental agencies at no direct cost to the department shall be assigned an equivalent cost and included in the per diem.

(4) The department of Corrections shall provide a report detailing the state cost to design, finance, acquire, lease, construct, and operate a facility similar to the private correctional facility on a per diem basis. This report shall be provided to the Auditor General in sufficient time that it may be certified to the Department of Management Services to be included in the request for proposals.

(5)

- (d) If a private vendor chooses not to renew the contract at the appropriated level, the department of Management Services shall terminate the contract as provided in s. 957.14.
- Section 14. Section 957.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 957.08 Capacity requirements.—The department of
 Corrections shall transfer and assign prisoners to each private
 correctional facility opened pursuant to this chapter in an
 amount not less than 90 percent or more than 100 percent of the
 capacity of the facility pursuant to the contract with the
 Department of Management Services. The prisoners transferred by
 the department of Corrections shall represent a cross-section of
 the general inmate population, based on the grade of custody or

Page 18 of 21

the offense of conviction, at the most comparable facility operated by the department.

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Section 15. Section 957.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

Contract termination and control of a correctional facility by the department. - A detailed plan shall be provided by a private vendor under which the department shall assume temporary control of a private correctional facility upon termination of the contract. The department of Management Services may terminate the contract with cause after written notice of material deficiencies and after 60 workdays in order to correct the material deficiencies. If any event occurs that involves the noncompliance with or violation of contract terms and that presents a serious threat to the safety, health, or security of the inmates, employees, or the public, the department may temporarily assume control of the private correctional facility, with the approval of the Department of Management Services. A plan shall also be provided by a private vendor for the purchase and temporary assumption of operations of a correctional facility by the department in the event of bankruptcy or the financial insolvency of the private vendor. The private vendor shall provide an emergency plan to address inmate disturbances, employee work stoppages, strikes, or other serious events in accordance with standards of the American Correctional Association.

Page 19 of 21

Section 16. Section 957.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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957.15 Funding of contracts for operation, maintenance, and lease-purchase of private correctional facilities.-The request for appropriation of funds to make payments pursuant to contracts entered into by the department of Management Services for the operation, maintenance, and lease-purchase of the private correctional facilities authorized by this chapter shall be included made by the Department of Management Services in a request to the department. The department shall include such request in its budget request to the Legislature as a separately identified item and shall forward the request of the Department of Management Services without change. After an appropriation has been made by the Legislature to the department for the private correctional facilities, the department shall have no authority over such funds other than to pay from such appropriation to the appropriate private vendor such amounts as are certified for payment by the department of Management Services.

Section 17. Section 957.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

957.16 Expanding capacity.—The department of Management Services is authorized to modify and execute agreements with contractors to expand up to the total capacity of contracted correctional facilities. Total capacity means the design

Page 20 of 21

capacity of all contracted correctional facilities increased by one-half as described under s. 944.023(1)(b). Any additional beds authorized under this section must comply with the cost-saving requirements set forth in s. 957.07. Any additional beds authorized as a result of expanded capacity under this section are contingent upon specified appropriations.

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Section 18. This act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Page 21 of 21