

By Senator Book

35-00441-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to commercial sexual exploitation of
3 children; amending s. 39.524, F.S.; requiring the
4 Department of Children and Families to include
5 individual-level child placement assessment data in
6 its annual report to the Legislature on the commercial
7 sexual exploitation of children; requiring the
8 department to provide the Legislature with individual-
9 level child placement assessment data in a certain
10 format; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 39.524, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 39.524 Safe-harbor placement.—

17 (3) (a) By October 1 of each year, the department, with
18 information from community-based care agencies, shall report to
19 the Legislature on the prevalence of ~~child~~ commercial sexual
20 exploitation of children; the specialized services provided and
21 placement of such children; the local service capacity assessed
22 pursuant to s. 409.1754; the placement of children in safe
23 houses and safe foster homes during the year, including the
24 criteria used to determine the placement of children; the number
25 of children who were evaluated for placement; the number of
26 children who were placed based upon the evaluation; the number
27 of children who were not placed; and the department's response
28 to the findings and recommendations made by the Office of
29 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in its

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30 annual study on commercial sexual exploitation of children, as
31 required by s. 409.16791. In addition, the supporting
32 assessments, including individual-level data for children who
33 are assessed for such placement, must be included in this
34 report.

35 (b) The department shall maintain data specifying the
36 number of children who were verified as victims of commercial
37 sexual exploitation, who were referred to nonresidential
38 services in the community, who were placed in a safe house or
39 safe foster home, and who were referred to a safe house or safe
40 foster home for whom placement was unavailable, and shall
41 identify the counties in which such placement was unavailable.
42 In addition, the department must provide to the Legislature
43 individual-level data for children who are assessed for such
44 placement in an extractable format that allows for aggregation
45 and analysis. The department shall include this data in its
46 report under this subsection so that the Legislature may
47 consider this information in developing the General
48 Appropriations Act.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.