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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

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| Senate | . | House |
| Comm: WD | . | |
| 01/29/2024 | . | |
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Harrell) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 157 - 194

and insert:

care lead licensed child-placing agency or alternatively
contact the statewide central abuse hotline for the community-
based care lead agency contact information ~~name of a licensed~~
~~child-placing agency~~ for purposes of transferring physical
custody of the newborn infant. The hospital shall notify the
community-based care lead licensed child-placing agency that a



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11 newborn infant has been left with the hospital and approximately
12 when the community-based care lead ~~licensed child-placing~~ agency
13 can take physical custody of the child. In cases where there is
14 actual or suspected child abuse or neglect, the hospital or any
15 of its licensed health care professionals shall report the
16 actual or suspected child abuse or neglect in accordance with
17 ss. 39.201 and 395.1023 in lieu of contacting the local
18 community-based care lead ~~a licensed child-placing~~ agency.

19 Section 5. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section
20 39.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

21 39.201 Required reports of child abuse, abandonment, or
22 neglect, sexual abuse of a child, and juvenile sexual abuse;
23 required reports of death; reports involving a child who has
24 exhibited inappropriate sexual behavior.—

25 (3) ADDITIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO REPORTS.—

26 (e) *Surrendered newborn infants.*—

27 1. The central abuse hotline must receive reports involving
28 surrendered newborn infants as described in s. 383.50.

29 2.a. A report may not be considered a report of child
30 abuse, abandonment, or neglect solely because the infant has
31 been left at a hospital, emergency medical services station, or
32 fire station under s. 383.50.

33 b. If the report involving a surrendered newborn infant
34 does not include indications of child abuse, abandonment, or
35 neglect other than that necessarily entailed in the infant
36 having been left at a hospital, emergency medical services
37 station, or fire station, the central abuse hotline must provide
38 to the person making the report the name of the local community-
39 based care lead agency ~~an eligible licensed child-placing agency~~



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40 that is required to accept physical custody of and to place
41 surrendered newborn infants. ~~The department shall provide names~~
42 ~~of eligible licensed child-placing agencies on a rotating basis.~~