

By the Committees on Fiscal Policy; and Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and Senators Garcia, Hooper, Book, and Rouson

594-03822-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to young adult aftercare services;
3 amending s. 409.1451, F.S.; revising eligibility
4 requirements for aftercare services for certain young
5 adults; authorizing the Department of Children and
6 Families to distribute federal funds to eligible young
7 adults in certain circumstances; providing an
8 effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Present subsection (11) of section 409.1451,
13 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (12), a new
14 subsection (11) is added to that section, and paragraph (a) of
15 subsection (3) of that section is amended, to read:

16 409.1451 The Road-to-Independence Program.—

17 (3) AFTERCARE SERVICES.—

18 (a)1. Aftercare services are available to a young adult who
19 has reached 18 years of age but is not yet 23 years of age and
20 is:

21 a. Not in foster care.

22 b. Temporarily not receiving financial assistance under
23 subsection (2) to pursue postsecondary education.

24 2. Subject to available funding, aftercare services ~~as~~
25 ~~specified in subparagraph (b)8.~~ are also available to a young
26 adult who is between the ages of 18 and 22, and is:

27 a. Receiving financial assistance under subsection (2), is
28 experiencing an emergency situation, requires services as
29 specified in subparagraph (b)8., and whose resources are

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30 insufficient to meet the emergency situation. Such assistance
31 shall be in addition to any amount specified in paragraph
32 (2) (b).

33 b. Was placed by a court in out-of-home care pursuant to
34 chapter 39, lived in out-of-home care for at least 6 months
35 after turning 14 years of age, and did not achieve reunification
36 with his or her parent or guardian.

37 (11) FUNDING DURING EMERGENCY.—Notwithstanding the
38 eligibility criteria in subsections (2) and (3), the department
39 may distribute federal funds to all young adults deemed eligible
40 by the funding source in the event of a state or national
41 emergency.

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