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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
04/16/2025	.	
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The Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice
(Martin) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment to Amendment (317706) (with title
amendment)**

Between lines 264 and 265
insert:

Section 6. Section 944.331, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read

944.331 Inmate grievance procedure.—

(1) The department shall establish by rule an inmate
grievance procedure that must conform to the Minimum Standards



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for Inmate Grievance Procedures as promulgated by the United States Department of Justice pursuant to 42 U.S.C. s. 1997e. An inmate's grievance must first be reviewed by an administrative law judge to determine whether there is cause to continue the grievance procedure. The department's office of general counsel shall oversee the grievance procedures established by the department.

(2) Any inmate must seek a declaratory statement from an administrative law judge pursuant to s. 120.565, regarding the validity of the initial grievance under relevant statutory provisions or of any rule or order of the department, as it applies to the inmate's particular set of circumstances, and whether the inmate has alleged sufficient cause to file such grievance.

(3) The department shall cooperate with the Division of Administrative Hearings to develop a form to initiate the grievance process, and must adopt rules relating to, but not limited to, time frames for receiving and responding to grievances and methods of filing the grievance.

(4) The department is authorized to waive the process for a petition for declaratory statement in the event of an emergency grievance alleging substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse or great bodily harm.

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 1293

and insert:

tracking applications; amending s. 944.331, F.S.,;



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40 requiring an inmate's grievance to be reviewed by an
41 administrative law judge; amending s. 945.41, F.S.;