

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate
Floor: 1/AD/RM
05/01/2025 03:05 PM

Floor: C 05/02/2025 07:48 PM

House

Senator Grall moved the following:

Senate Amendment to House Amendment (646549) (with title 1 2 amendment) 3 4 Delete lines 5 - 351 and insert: 5 6 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 39.524, Florida 7 Statutes, is amended to read: 8 39.524 Safe-harbor placement.-9 (3) (a) By October 1 of each year, the department, with 10 information from community-based care agencies, shall report to the Legislature on the prevalence of child commercial sexual 11

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12 exploitation of children; the specialized services provided and 13 placement of such children; the local service capacity assessed 14 pursuant to s. 409.1754; the placement of children in safe 15 houses and safe foster homes during the year, including the criteria used to determine the placement of children; the number 16 17 of children who were evaluated for placement; the number of 18 children who were placed based upon the evaluation; the number 19 of children who were not placed; and the department's response 20 to the findings and recommendations made by the Office of 21 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in its 22 annual study on commercial sexual exploitation of children, as 23 required by s. 409.16791; and must also maintain a copy of any 24 paper-based assessments or tools used to assess a child for such 25 placement, to be provided upon request of the Legislature.

26 (b) The department shall maintain individual-level data of 27 all children assessed for placement in a safe house or safe 28 foster home and use this data to produce information that specifies specifying the number of children who were verified as 29 30 victims of commercial sexual exploitation, who were referred to 31 nonresidential services in the community, who were placed in a 32 safe house or safe foster home, and who were referred to a safe 33 house or safe foster home for whom placement was unavailable, and shall identify the counties in which such placement was 34 35 unavailable. The department shall include this data in its 36 report under this subsection so that the Legislature may 37 consider this information in developing the General 38 Appropriations Act. The department shall maintain collected 39 individual-level data in a format that allows for extraction and 40 analysis of anonymized individual-level and aggregate data upon

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41	request by the Legislature.
42	Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section
43	39.905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
44	39.905 Domestic violence centers
45	(1) Domestic violence centers certified under this part
46	must:
47	(h) Demonstrate local need and ability to sustain
48	operations through a history of 18 consecutive months' operation
49	as a domestic violence center, including 12 months' operation of
50	an emergency shelter as provided in paragraph (c), and a
51	business plan which addresses future operations and funding of
52	future operations. The department may waive this requirement if
53	there is an emergency need for a new domestic violence center to
54	provide services in an area and no other viable options exist to
55	ensure continuity of services. If there is an emergency need,
56	the department may issue a provisional certificate to the
57	domestic violence center as long as the center meets all other
58	criteria in this subsection. The department may adopt rules to
59	provide minimum standards for a provisional certificate,
60	including increased monitoring and site visits and the time
61	period such certificate is valid.
62	Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 402.305, Florida
63	Statutes, is amended to read:
64	402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities
65	(2) PERSONNELMinimum standards for child care personnel
66	shall include minimum requirements as to:
67	(a) Good moral character based upon screening as defined in
68	s. 402.302(15). This screening shall be conducted as provided in
69	chapter 435, using the level 2 standards for screening set forth

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in that chapter, and include employment history checks, a search of criminal history records, sexual predator and sexual offender registries, and child abuse and neglect registry of any state in which the current or prospective child care personnel resided during the preceding 5 years.

(b) Fingerprint submission for child care personnel, which shall comply with s. 435.12.

(c)—The department may grant exemptions from disqualification from working with children or the developmentally disabled as provided in s. 435.07.

(c) (d) Minimum age requirements. Such minimum standards shall prohibit a person under the age of 21 from being the operator of a child care facility and a person under the age of 16 from being employed at such facility unless such person is under direct supervision and is not counted for the purposes of computing the personnel-to-child ratio.

<u>(d)</u> (e) Minimum training requirements for child care personnel.

1. Such minimum standards for training shall ensure that all child care personnel take an approved 40-clock-hour introductory course in child care, which course covers at least the following topic areas:

92 a. State and local rules and regulations which govern child93 care.

b. Health, safety, and nutrition.

c. Identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect.

96 d. Child development, including typical and atypical
97 language, cognitive, motor, social, and self-help skills
98 development.

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e. Observation of developmental behaviors, including using a checklist or other similar observation tools and techniques to determine the child's developmental age level.

f. Specialized areas, including computer technology for professional and classroom use and early literacy and language development of children from birth to 5 years of age, as determined by the department, for owner-operators and child care personnel of a child care facility.

g. Developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome, and early identification, use of available state and local resources, classroom integration, and positive behavioral supports for children with developmental disabilities.

113 Within 90 days after employment, child care personnel shall 114 begin training to meet the training requirements. Child care 115 personnel shall successfully complete such training within 1 116 year after the date on which the training began, as evidenced by 117 passage of a competency examination. Successful completion of 118 the 40-clock-hour introductory course shall articulate into 119 community college credit in early childhood education, pursuant 120 to ss. 1007.24 and 1007.25. Exemption from all or a portion of 121 the required training shall be granted to child care personnel 122 based upon educational credentials or passage of competency 123 examinations. Child care personnel possessing a 2-year degree or 124 higher that includes 6 college credit hours in early childhood 125 development or child growth and development, or a child 126 development associate credential or an equivalent state-approved 127 child development associate credential, or a child development

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128 associate waiver certificate shall be automatically exempted 129 from the training requirements in sub-subparagraphs b., d., and 130 e.

2. The introductory course in child care shall stress, to the extent possible, an interdisciplinary approach to the study of children.

3. The introductory course shall cover recognition and prevention of shaken baby syndrome; prevention of sudden infant death syndrome; recognition and care of infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome; and early childhood brain development within the topic areas identified in this paragraph.

4. On an annual basis in order to further their child care skills and, if appropriate, administrative skills, child care personnel who have fulfilled the requirements for the child care training shall be required to take an additional 1 continuing education unit of approved inservice training, or 10 clock hours of equivalent training, as determined by the department.

5. Child care personnel shall be required to complete 0.5 continuing education unit of approved training or 5 clock hours of equivalent training, as determined by the department, in early literacy and language development of children from birth to 5 years of age one time. The year that this training is completed, it shall fulfill the 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of the annual training required in subparagraph 4.

6. Procedures for ensuring the training of qualified child care professionals to provide training of child care personnel, including onsite training, shall be included in the minimum standards. It is recommended that the state community child care

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157 coordination agencies (central agencies) be contracted by the 158 department to coordinate such training when possible. Other 159 district educational resources, such as community colleges and 160 career programs, can be designated in such areas where central 161 agencies may not exist or are determined not to have the 162 capability to meet the coordination requirements set forth by 163 the department.

164 7. Training requirements shall not apply to certain 165 occasional or part-time support staff, including, but not 166 limited to, swimming instructors, piano teachers, dance 167 instructors, and gymnastics instructors.

8. The child care operator shall be required to take basic training in serving children with disabilities within 5 years after employment, either as a part of the introductory training or the annual 8 hours of inservice training.

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(e) (f) Periodic health examinations.

<u>(f)</u> A credential for child care facility directors. The credential shall be a required minimum standard for licensing.

The department may grant limited exemptions to the minimum standards provided in this subsection which authorize a person to work in a specified role or with a specified population.

Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 402.402, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

183 402.402 Child protection and child welfare personnel; 184 attorneys employed by the department.-

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(4) RECRUITMENT PROGRAM.-Subject to appropriation, the

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186	department shall develop and implement a child protective
187	investigator and case manager recruitment program for the
188	purpose of recruiting individuals who have previously held
189	public safety and service positions, such as former law
190	enforcement officers, first responders, military servicemembers,
191	teachers, health care practitioners, and emergency management
192	professionals. This recruitment program must focus on the
193	education and recruitment of individuals who have held positions
194	of public trust and who wish to further serve their communities
195	as child welfare personnel.
196	(a) The department, in collaboration with community-based
197	care lead agencies, shall:
198	1. Develop information pertaining to employment
199	opportunities, application procedures, and training requirements
200	for employment within the child welfare system and distribute
201	such information to individuals who have previously held public
202	safety and service positions.
203	2. Develop and implement an employment referral system with
204	lead agencies for the case management population.
205	3. Collect the following information quarterly:
206	a. The total number of individuals who sought information
207	from the program; were hired by the department as child
208	protective investigators; were referred by the program to a lead
209	agency for case management positions; and, based upon a referral
210	by the program, were hired by the lead agency or contractor as a
211	case manager.
212	b. The overall turnover rate for child protective
213	investigators and case managers compared to the turnover rate
214	for child protective investigators and case managers hired based

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215 <u>upon this program.</u>
216 <u>(b) The department may adopt rules to implement this</u>
217 subsection.

218 Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) and paragraph 219 (e) of subsection (14) of section 409.175, Florida Statutes, are 220 amended to read:

409.175 Licensure of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies; public records exemption.-

(5) The department shall adopt and amend rules for the levels of licensed care associated with the licensure of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and childplacing agencies. The rules may include criteria to approve waivers to licensing requirements when applying for a childspecific license.

(b) The requirements for licensure and operation of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and childplacing agencies shall include:

1. The operation, conduct, and maintenance of these homes and agencies and the responsibility which they assume for children served and the evidence of need for that service.

236 2. The provision of food, clothing, educational 237 opportunities, services, equipment, and individual supplies to 238 assure the healthy physical, emotional, and mental development 239 of the children served.

3. The appropriateness, safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the premises, including fire prevention and health standards, to provide for the physical comfort, care, and wellbeing of the children served.

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244 4. The ratio of staff to children required to provide adequate care and supervision of the children served and, in the 245 246 case of family foster homes, the maximum number of children in 247 the home. 248 5. The good moral character based upon screening, 249 education, training, and experience requirements for personnel 250 and family foster homes. 251 6. The department may grant exemptions from disqualification from working with children or the 2.52 253 developmentally disabled as provided in s. 435.07. 254 6.7. The provision of preservice and inservice training for 255 all foster parents and agency staff. 256 7.8. Satisfactory evidence of financial ability to provide 257 care for the children in compliance with licensing requirements. 258 8.9. The maintenance by the agency of records pertaining to admission, progress, health, and discharge of children served, 259 260 including written case plans and reports to the department. 261 9.10. The provision for parental involvement to encourage 262 preservation and strengthening of a child's relationship with 263 the family. 264 10.11. The transportation safety of children served. 265 11.12. The provisions for safequarding the cultural, 266 religious, and ethnic values of a child. 2.67 12.13. Provisions to safequard the legal rights of children 268 served.

269 <u>13.14.</u> Requiring signs to be conspicuously placed on the 270 premises of facilities maintained by child-caring agencies to 271 warn children of the dangers of human trafficking and to 272 encourage the reporting of individuals observed attempting to



273	engage in human trafficking activity. The signs must advise			
274	children to report concerns to the local law enforcement agency			
275	or the Department of Law Enforcement, specifying the appropriate			
276	telephone numbers used for such reports. The department shall			
277	specify, at a minimum, the content of the signs by rule.			
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279	The department may grant limited exemptions to the requirements			
280	provided in this paragraph which authorize a person to work in a			
281	specified role or with a specified population.			
282	(14)			
283	(e)1. In addition to any other preservice training required			
284	by law, foster parents, as a condition of licensure, and agency			
285	staff must successfully complete preservice training related to			
286	human trafficking which must be uniform statewide and must			
287	include, but need not be limited to:			
288	a. Basic information on human trafficking, such as an			
289	understanding of relevant terminology, and the differences			
290	between sex trafficking and labor trafficking;			
291	b. Factors and knowledge on identifying children at risk of			
292	human trafficking; and			
293	c. Steps that should be taken to prevent at-risk youths			
294	from becoming victims of human trafficking.			
295	2. Foster parents, before licensure renewal, and agency			
296	staff, during each full year of employment, must complete			
297	inservice training related to human trafficking to satisfy the			
298	training requirement under subparagraph (5)(b)6. (5)(b)7.			
299	Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section			
300	409.987, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:			
301	409.987 Lead agency procurement; boards; conflicts of			

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302 interest.-(4) In order to serve as a lead agency, an entity must: 303 304 (c) Demonstrate financial responsibility through an 305 organized plan for regular fiscal audits and; the posting of a 306 performance bond; and the posting of a fidelity bond to cover 307 any costs associated with reprocurement and the assessed penalties related to a failure to disclose a conflict of 308 309 interest under subsection (7). Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 310 311 409.993, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (c), 312 paragraph (a) is amended, and a new paragraph (b) is added to 313 that subsection, to read: 314 409.993 Lead agencies and subcontractor liability.-315 (3) SUBCONTRACTOR LIABILITY.-

316 (a) A subcontractor of an eligible community-based care 317 lead agency that is a direct provider of foster care and related services to children and families, and its employees or 318 319 officers, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) (b), 320 must, as a part of its contract, obtain a minimum of \$1 million 321 per occurrence with a policy period aggregate limit of \$3 322 million in general liability insurance coverage. The 323 subcontractor of a lead agency must also require that staff who 324 transport client children and families in their personal 325 automobiles in order to carry out their job responsibilities 326 obtain minimum bodily injury liability insurance in the amount 327 of \$100,000 per person in any one automobile accident, and 328 subject to such limits for each person, \$300,000 for all damages 329 resulting from any one automobile accident, on their personal 330 automobiles. In lieu of personal motor vehicle insurance, the



331 subcontractor's casualty, liability, or motor vehicle insurance 332 carrier may provide nonowned automobile liability coverage. This 333 insurance provides liability insurance for automobiles that the subcontractor uses in connection with the subcontractor's 334 335 business but does not own, lease, rent, or borrow. This coverage 336 includes automobiles owned by the employees of the subcontractor 337 or a member of the employee's household but only while the 338 automobiles are used in connection with the subcontractor's 339 business. The nonowned automobile coverage for the subcontractor 340 applies as excess coverage over any other collectible insurance. 341 The personal automobile policy for the employee of the 342 subcontractor shall be primary insurance, and the nonowned 343 automobile coverage of the subcontractor acts as excess 344 insurance to the primary insurance. The subcontractor shall 345 provide a minimum limit of \$1 million in nonowned automobile 346 coverage. In a tort action brought against such subcontractor or 347 employee, net economic damages shall be limited to \$2 million 348 per liability claim and \$200,000 per automobile claim, 349 including, but not limited to, past and future medical expenses, 350 wage loss, and loss of earning capacity, offset by any 351 collateral source payment paid or payable. In a tort action 352 brought against such subcontractor, noneconomic damages shall be 353 limited to \$400,000 per claim. A claims bill may be brought on 354 behalf of a claimant pursuant to s. 768.28 for any amount 355 exceeding the limits specified in this paragraph. Any offset of 356 collateral source payments made as of the date of the settlement 357 or judgment shall be in accordance with s. 768.76. 358

358 (b) A subcontractor of a lead agency that is a direct 359 provider of foster care and related services is not liable for

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360	the acts or omissions of the lead agency, the department, or the		
361	officers, agents, or employees thereof. The limitation on		
362	liability established in this paragraph applies to contracts		
363	entered into or renewed after July 1, 2025.		
364	Section 8. Subsection (27) is added to section 409.996,		
365	Florida Statutes, to read:		
366	409.996 Duties of the Department of Children and Families		
367	The department shall contract for the delivery, administration,		
368	or management of care for children in the child protection and		
369	child welfare system. In doing so, the department retains		
370	responsibility for the quality of contracted services and		
371	programs and shall ensure that, at a minimum, services are		
372	delivered in accordance with applicable federal and state		
373	statutes and regulations and the performance standards and		
374	metrics specified in the strategic plan created under s.		
375	20.19(1).		
376	(27)(a) Subject to appropriation, beginning July 1, 2025,		
377	the department shall develop a 4-year pilot program of treatment		
378	foster care or a substantially similar evidence-based program of		
379	professional foster care. The department shall implement the		
380	pilot program by January 1, 2026.		
381	(b) The department shall implement and operate the pilot		
382	program and coordinate with community-based care lead agencies		
383	to develop a process for the placement of children in treatment		
384	foster care homes and deliver payment to the licensed providers		
385	operating the pilot treatment foster care homes.		
386	(c) Community-based care lead agencies shall work with the		
387	department to recruit individuals and families as licensed		
388	providers and identify potential eligible children for placement		

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389	in the pilot treatment foster care homes.
390	(d) Participation in the pilot program is limited to
391	children who:
392	1. Are entering or continuing in foster care with high
393	resource indicators, as determined by the department. These high
394	resource indicators may include, but are not limited to, the
395	potential for frequent placement change due to current or past
396	behavior or Department of Juvenile Justice involvement; or
397	2. Are dependent and will require continued placement in
398	foster care when the children are discharged from inpatient
399	residential treatment.
400	(e) The department shall identify two judicial circuits
401	within which the pilot program will be implemented. The
402	department shall use relevant removal and placement data to
403	identify areas with the greatest need for such a program.
404	(f) The department shall arrange for an independent
405	evaluation of the pilot program to determine whether:
406	1. The pilot program is maintaining children in the least
407	restrictive and most appropriate family-like setting near the
408	child's home while he or she is in department care.
409	2. There is a long-term cost benefit associated with
410	continuation and expansion of a treatment or professional foster
411	care program.
412	(g) The department shall establish standards for the pilot
413	program. Those standards must, at a minimum, ensure:
414	1. That placement of a child in a treatment foster care
415	home is a temporary holistic treatment option and may not exceed
416	9 months. A one-time 3-month extension may be granted if the
417	department determines that the child is not ready for discharge

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418	from a treatment foster care home at 9 months.
419	2. Development and implementation of specialized training
420	for treatment foster parents in care coordination, de-
421	escalation, crisis management, and other identified relevant
422	skills needed to care for children with high behavioral health
423	needs that cannot be or have not been met in traditional foster
424	care placements.
425	3. No more than two eligible children are placed at any
426	time in a treatment foster care home.
427	4. At least one foster parent with specialized training is
428	available and dedicated to the care and treatment of placed
429	children.
430	5. A 24 hour on-call crisis person is available to provide
431	in-home crisis intervention and placement stabilization
432	services.
433	(h) By January 1, 2030, the department shall submit to the
434	Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
435	House of Representatives a final report that includes the
436	independent evaluation, the department's findings and
437	evaluation, recommendations as to whether the pilot program
438	should be continued and expanded statewide and, if so, fiscal
439	and policy recommendations to ensure effective expansion and
440	continued operation of the program.
441	Section 9. Subsection (11) is added to section 1004.615,
442	Florida Statutes, to read:
443	1004.615 Florida Institute for Child Welfare
444	(11) An incentive provided to state employees for
445	participating in the institute's research or evaluation as
446	required by the institute's statutory mission under this section

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447	may not be considered a violation of s. 112.313 or require
448	reporting under s. 112.3148.
449	Section 10. Section 402.30501, Florida Statutes, is amended
450	to read:
451	402.30501 Modification of introductory child care course
452	for community college credit authorizedThe Department of
453	Children and Families may modify the 40-clock-hour introductory
454	course in child care under s. 402.305 or s. 402.3131 to meet the
455	requirements of articulating the course to community college
456	credit. Any modification must continue to provide that the
457	course satisfies the requirements of <u>s. 402.305(2)(d)</u> s.
458	402.305(2)(e).
459	Section 11. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1002.57,
460	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
461	1002.57 Prekindergarten director credential
462	(3) The prekindergarten director credential must meet or
463	exceed the requirements of the Department of Children and
464	Families for the child care facility director credential under
465	s. $402.305(2)(f)$ s. $402.305(2)(g)$, and successful completion of
466	the prekindergarten director credential satisfies these
467	requirements for the child care facility director credential.
468	(4) The department shall, to the maximum extent
469	practicable, award credit to a person who successfully completes
470	the child care facility director credential under s.
471	402.305(2)(f) s. 402.305(2)(g) for those requirements of the
472	prekindergarten director credential which are duplicative of
473	requirements for the child care facility director credential.
474	Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 1002.59, Florida
475	Statutes, is amended to read:

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476 1002.59 Emergent literacy and performance standards 477 training courses.-

478 (1) The department, in collaboration with the Just Read, 479 Florida! Office, shall adopt minimum standards for courses in 480 emergent literacy for prekindergarten instructors. Each course 481 must consist of 5 clock hours and provide instruction in 482 strategies and techniques to address the age-appropriate 483 progress of prekindergarten students in developing emergent literacy skills, including oral communication, knowledge of 484 485 print and letters, phonological and phonemic awareness, 486 vocabulary and comprehension development, and foundational 487 background knowledge designed to correlate with the content that 488 students will encounter in grades K-12, consistent with the 489 evidence-based content and strategies grounded in the science of 490 reading identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(7). The course 491 standards must be reviewed as part of any review of subject 492 coverage or endorsement requirements in the elementary, reading, 493 and exceptional student educational areas conducted pursuant to 494 s. 1012.586. Each course must also provide resources containing strategies that allow students with disabilities and other 495 496 special needs to derive maximum benefit from the Voluntary 497 Prekindergarten Education Program. Successful completion of an 498 emergent literacy training course approved under this section 499 satisfies requirements for approved training in early literacy 500 and language development under ss. 402.305(2)(d)5. ss. 501 402.305(2)(e)5., 402.313(6), and 402.3131(5).

502Section 13. (1) Effective upon this act becoming a law,503the Department of Children and Families shall convene a case504management workforce workgroup by July 1, 2025. The workgroup

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505	shall be composed of persons with subject matter expertise in
506	case management and child welfare policy.
507	(2) The department shall ensure the workgroup has at least
508	two representatives with subject matter expertise in case
509	management from each of the following:
510	(a) The Department of Children and Families.
511	(b) Community-based care lead agencies.
512	(c) Contracted case management organizations.
513	(3) In collaboration with the Florida Institute for Child
514	Welfare, the workgroup shall do all of the following:
515	(a) Review and analyze existing statutes, rules, operating
516	procedures, and federal requirements relating to the provision
517	of case management.
518	(b) Review and analyze legislative changes relating to case
519	management processes during the preceding 10 years and the
520	impact that those changes have had on workload and workforce.
521	(c) Gather statewide data to assess all of the following:
522	1. Compliance with statutory requirements.
523	2. Variations in case management practices.
524	3. Current workforce capacity.
525	4. Barriers to successful implementation of any statutes,
526	rules, and operating procedures.
527	(d) Solicit insight from stakeholders, including frontline
528	workers, supervisors, and administrators, regarding challenges
529	and potential solutions.
530	(e) Analyze findings of the work conducted under paragraphs
531	(a)-(d) to do all of the following:
532	1. Identify any needed statutory changes.
533	2. Evaluate whether the current structure, processes, and

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	quirements of the statutes, rules, and operating procedures
are	e duplicative or unworkable.
	3. Evaluate how well case managers are implementing poli
	(f) Develop clear and actionable recommendations to
st	reamline, clarify, standardize, and implement case managemen
pro	ocesses and practices that address workforce retention and
<u>al</u>]	low for local community innovation.
	(4) The workgroup shall meet as often as necessary to ca
out	t these duties and responsibilities and shall operate until
Dec	cember 1, 2025, at which time it shall submit to the Governo
the	e President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
Rer	presentatives a report that summarizes its work, describes a
det	tails its analysis of data, and recommends clear actionable
<u>po</u>]	licy.
	Section 14. Effective upon this act becoming law, the
Der	partment of Children and Families shall contract for a
det	tailed study of bed capacity for residential treatment
sei	rvices and a gap analysis of nonresidential treatment servic
foi	r child victims of commercial sexual exploitation identified
by	the child welfare systems of care and those not involved in
the	e child welfare systems of care. The study must include
ana	alyses of current capacity, current and projected future
der	mand, and the state's current and projected future ability t
mee	et that demand. The study must be completed by December 31,
202	25, and must, at a minimum, include all of the following:
	(1) By department region, the current number of resident
tre	eatment beds in safe homes for treatment of child victims of
cor	mmercial sexual exploitation, the number of individuals
adr	mitted and discharged annually, the types and frequency of

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563	diagnoses, and the lengths of stays.
564	(2) By department region, the current number of specialized
565	safe therapeutic foster home placements for child victims of
566	commercial sexual exploitation, the number of placements
567	annually, and the lengths of stays.
568	(3) By department region, an analysis of nonresidential
569	treatment services for child victims of commercial sexual
570	exploitation and the utilization of such services.
571	(4) Policy recommendations for ensuring sufficient bed
572	capacity for residential treatment beds, ensuring specialized
573	safe therapeutic foster home placements, and enhancing services
574	for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation which could
575	prevent the need for residential treatment beds.
576	Section 15. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
577	act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon
578	this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,
579	2025.
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581	========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ===========
582	And the title is amended as follows:
583	Delete lines 357 - 380
584	and insert:
585	An act relating to child welfare; amending s. 39.524,
586	F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and
587	Families to maintain copies of certain assessments and
588	tools used to assess children for certain placement;
589	requiring the department to maintain certain data in a
590	specified format; amending s. 39.905, F.S.;
591	authorizing the department to waive a specified

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592 requirement if there is an emergency need for a new domestic violence center; authorizing the department 593 594 to issue a provisional certificate under certain 595 circumstances; authorizing the department to adopt 596 rules; amending ss. 402.305 and 409.175, F.S.; 597 removing authority for the department to grant 598 exemptions from working with children or the 599 developmentally disabled; authorizing the department 600 to grant limited exemptions to certain minimum 601 standards and requirements, respectively; amending s. 602 402.402, F.S.; subject to an appropriation, requiring 603 the department to develop a child protective 604 investigator and case manager recruitment program for 605 a specified purpose; specifying requirements for the 606 program; specifying duties of the department under the 607 program, to be completed in collaboration with 608 community-based care lead agencies; authorizing the 609 department to adopt rules to implement the program; 610 amending s. 409.987, F.S.; removing the requirement 611 that an entity post a specified fidelity bond in order 612 to serve as a lead agency; amending s. 409.993, F.S.; 613 providing immunity from liability for subcontractors 614 of lead agencies for certain acts or omissions; 615 providing applicability; amending s. 409.996, F.S.; 616 subject to an appropriation and beginning on a 617 specified date, requiring the department to develop a 618 4-year pilot program for treatment foster care; 619 requiring the department to implement the pilot 620 program by a specified date; requiring the department

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621 to coordinate with community-based care lead agencies 622 to develop a specified process; requiring community-623 based care lead agencies to recruit individuals and families for a certain purpose; limiting participation 624 625 in the pilot program to children meeting specified 626 criteria; requiring the department to identify two 627 judicial circuits determined to have the greatest need 628 for implementation of such pilot program; requiring the department to arrange for an independent 62.9 630 evaluation of the pilot program to make specified 631 determinations; requiring the department to establish 632 certain minimum standards for the pilot program; 633 requiring the department, by a specified date, to 634 submit to the Governor and the Legislature a final 635 report which includes specified evaluations, findings, 636 and recommendations; amending s. 1004.615, F.S.; specifying that incentives provided to state employees 637 638 for participating in research or evaluation with the 639 Florida Institute for Child Welfare do not violate 640 certain laws or require certain reporting; amending 641 ss. 402.30501, 1002.57, and 1002.59, F.S.; conforming 642 cross-references; requiring the department to convene 643 a case management workforce workgroup by a specified date; providing for membership of the workgroup; 644 645 specifying duties of the workgroup, to be completed in 646 collaboration with the Florida Institute for Child 647 Welfare; providing for meetings of the workgroup; 648 providing for the operation of the workgroup until a specified date; requiring the workgroup to submit a 649

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650 report to the Governor and the Legislature by a 651 specified date; providing requirements for the report; 652 requiring the department to contract for a detailed 653 study of certain services for child victims of 654 commercial sexual exploitation; requiring that the 655 study be completed by a specified date; providing 656 requirements for the study; providing effective dates.