

CS/HB 1327

2026

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to veteran benefit payments to minor clients; amending s. 402.33, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families to receive, deposit, and conserve certain benefit payments for certain minor clients; providing requirements for such funds; prohibiting the Department of Children and Families from using such funds for certain purposes; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (3) through (9) of section 402.33, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) through (10), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

402.33 Department authority to charge fees for services provided.—

(3) The Department of Children and Families must receive, deposit, and conserve all survivor benefit payments provided by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs on behalf of a minor client in out-of-home care. The accumulated funds must be disbursed in their entirety to the minor client upon attaining 18 years of age. The Department of Children and Families may not use such funds to reimburse the state for the cost of care.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.