

By Senator Garcia

36-01306-26

20261486__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to structure and legislative oversight of executive agencies; amending s. 20.04, F.S.; providing that divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and subsections in an executive department may be established only by specific statutory enactment; amending s. 20.165, F.S.; providing that certain appointments made by the Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation are subject to review and approval by the Legislature; amending s. 20.23, F.S.; providing that certain appointments made by the Secretary of Transportation are subject to review and approval by the Legislature; providing that the secretary's restructuring of offices is subject to review and approval by the Legislature; amending ss. 20.315, 20.316, 20.41, and 20.60, F.S.; providing that certain appointments made by the heads of departments are subject to review and approval by the Legislature; requiring the Legislature, subject to a certain review and determination, to dissolve certain divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and subsections by a specified date; amending s. 20.43, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity within the Department of Health; amending s. 282.0051, F.S.; providing that the state chief information officer shall have all decisionmaking authority with respect to information technology on behalf of all departments and all department divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and

36-01306-26

20261486__

subsections; repealing s. 381.735, F.S., relating to
the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity;
amending ss. 381.814, 383.2163, and 409.91235, F.S.;
conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section
20.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.04 Structure of executive branch.—The executive branch
of state government is structured as follows:

(7)

(b) Within the limitations of this subsection, the head of
the department may recommend the establishment of additional
divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and subsections of the
department to promote efficient and effective operation of the
department. However, such ~~additional~~ divisions, ~~or offices,~~
bureaus, sections, and subsections ~~in the Department of Children~~
~~and Families, the Department of Corrections, the Department of~~
~~Commerce, and the Department of Transportation,~~ may be
established only by specific statutory enactment. ~~New bureaus,~~
~~sections, and subsections of departments may be initiated by a~~
~~department and established as recommended by the Department of~~
~~Management Services and approved by the Executive Office of the~~
~~Governor, or may be established by specific statutory enactment.~~

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 20.165, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

20.165 Department of Business and Professional Regulation.—

36-01306-26

20261486__

There is created a Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

(3) The secretary shall appoint a director for each division established within this section. Each division director shall directly administer the division and shall be responsible to the secretary. The secretary may appoint deputy and assistant secretaries, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to aid the secretary in fulfilling the secretary's statutory obligations.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 20.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.23 Department of Transportation.—There is created a Department of Transportation which shall be a decentralized agency.

(4)

(b) The secretary may appoint positions at the level of deputy assistant secretary or director, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~which the secretary deems necessary~~ to accomplish the mission and goals of the department, including, but not limited to, the areas of program responsibility provided in this paragraph, each of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The secretary may combine, separate, or delete offices, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, as needed in consultation with the Executive Office of the Governor. The department's areas of program responsibility include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

1. Administration.
2. Planning.

36-01306-26

20261486__

88 3. Supply chain and modal development.

89 4. Design.

90 5. Highway operations.

91 6. Right-of-way.

92 7. Toll operations.

93 8. Transportation technology.

94 9. Information technology.

95 10. Motor carrier weight inspection.

96 11. Work program and budget.

97 12. Comptroller.

98 13. Construction.

99 14. Statewide corridors.

100 15. Maintenance.

101 16. Forecasting and performance.

102 17. Emergency management.

103 18. Safety.

104 19. Materials.

105 20. Infrastructure and innovation.

106 21. Permitting.

107 22. Traffic operations.

108 23. Operational technology.

109 Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section
110 20.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

111 20.315 Department of Corrections.—There is created a
112 Department of Corrections.

113 (3) SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS.—The head of the Department of
114 Corrections is the Secretary of Corrections. The secretary is
115 appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the
116 Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The

36-01306-26

20261486__

secretary is responsible for planning, coordinating, and managing the corrections system of the state. The secretary shall ensure that the programs and services of the department are administered in accordance with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, with established program standards, and consistent with legislative intent. The secretary shall identify the need for and recommend funding for the secure and efficient operation of the state correctional system.

(c) The secretary may appoint assistant secretaries, directors, or other such persons that he or she deems are necessary, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, to accomplish the mission and goals of the department, including, but not limited to, the following areas of program responsibility:

1. Security and institutional operations, which shall provide inmate work programs, offender programs, security administration, emergency operations response, and operational oversight of the regions.

2. Health services, which shall be headed by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or an osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 459, or a professionally trained health care administrator with progressively responsible experience in health care administration. This individual shall be responsible for the delivery of health services to offenders within the system and shall have direct professional authority over such services.

3. Community corrections, which shall provide for coordination of community alternatives to incarceration and operational oversight of community corrections regions.

36-01306-26

20261486__

146 4. Administrative services, which shall provide budget and
147 accounting services within the department, including the
148 construction and maintenance of correctional institutions, human
149 resource management, research, planning and evaluation, and
150 technology.

151 5. Program, transition, and postrelease services, which
152 shall provide for the direct management and supervision of all
153 departmental programs, including the coordination and delivery
154 of education and job training to the offenders in the custody of
155 the department. In addition, this program shall provide for the
156 direct management and supervision of all programs that furnish
157 transition assistance to inmates who are or have recently been
158 in the custody of the department, including the coordination,
159 facilitation, and contract management of prerelease and
160 postrelease transition services provided by governmental and
161 private providers, including faith-based service groups.

162 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 20.316, Florida
163 Statutes, is amended to read:

164 20.316 Department of Juvenile Justice.—There is created a
165 Department of Juvenile Justice.

166 (2) DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS.—The following programs are
167 established within the Department of Juvenile Justice:

- 168 (a) Accountability and Program Support.
- 169 (b) Administration.
- 170 (c) Intake and Detention.
- 171 (d) Prevention Services.
- 172 (e) Probation and Community Corrections.
- 173 (f) Residential and Correctional Facilities.

36-01306-26

20261486__

The secretary may establish assistant secretary positions and a chief of staff position, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to administer the requirements of this section.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 20.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.41 Department of Elderly Affairs.—There is created a Department of Elderly Affairs.

(1) The head of the department is the Secretary of Elderly Affairs. The secretary must be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The secretary serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The secretary shall administer the affairs of the department and may employ assistants, professional staff, and other employees, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to discharge the powers and duties of the department.

Section 7. Subsection (9) of section 20.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.43 Department of Health.—There is created a Department of Health.

~~(9) There is established within the Department of Health the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, which shall be headed by a Senior Health Equity Officer. The Senior Health Equity Officer shall administer the Closing the Gap grant program established under ss. 381.7351-381.7356 in a manner that maximizes the impact of the grants in achieving health equity. The Senior Health Equity Officer shall evaluate the awarded grants to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of funds and to determine best practices. The Senior Health Equity~~

36-01306-26

20261486__

~~Officer shall disseminate information on best practices to stakeholders and shall ensure that the assessments inform future grant award decisions.~~

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 20.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.60 Department of Commerce; creation; powers and duties.—

(2) The head of the department is the Secretary of Commerce, who shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of and report to the Governor and shall serve as the Governor's chief negotiator for business recruitment and expansion and economic development. The secretary may appoint deputy and assistant secretaries, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to aid the secretary in fulfilling his or her statutory obligations.

Section 9. The Legislature shall, by the adjournment of the 2027 Regular Session, review the purposes and functions of every department division, office, bureau, section, and subsection and dissolve any such division, office, bureau, section, and subsection as it deems necessary.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 282.0051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

282.0051 Department of Management Services; Florida Digital Service; powers, duties, and functions.—

(2)(a) The Secretary of Management Services shall designate a state chief information officer, who shall administer the Florida Digital Service. The state chief information officer, prior to appointment, must have at least 5 years of experience in the development of information system strategic planning and

36-01306-26

20261486__

development or information technology policy, and, preferably, have leadership-level experience in the design, development, and deployment of interoperable software and data solutions. The state chief information officer shall have all decisionmaking authority with respect to information technology on behalf of all departments and all department divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and subsections.

Section 11. Section 381.735, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 12. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 381.814, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

381.814 Sickle Cell Disease Research and Treatment Grant Program.—The Sickle Cell Disease Research and Treatment Grant Program is created within the Department of Health.

(3) Funds appropriated to the program shall be awarded by the Department of Health ~~Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, within the department,~~ to community-based sickle cell disease medical treatment and research centers operating in this state.

(4) The Department of Health ~~Office of Minority Health and Health Equity~~ shall award grants under the program to community-based sickle cell disease medical treatment and research centers to fund projects specific to sickle cell disease in the following project areas:

(a) *Sickle cell disease workforce development and education.*—Such projects shall include, but need not be limited to, facility-based education programs, continuing education curriculum development, and outreach and education activities with the local health care practitioner community. Workforce development and education projects must be based on current

36-01306-26

20261486__

evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for sickle cell disease.

(b) *Sickle Cell Disease Treatment Centers of Excellence.*— Such projects shall include, but need not be limited to, operational support for existing centers of excellence, facility enhancement of existing centers of excellence, and the establishment of new centers of excellence.

Section 13. Subsection (6) of section 383.2163, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

383.2163 Telehealth Minority Maternity Care Program.—The department shall establish a statewide Telehealth Minority Maternity Care Program that uses telehealth to expand the capacity for positive maternal health outcomes in racial and ethnic minority populations. The department may enlist county health departments to assist with program implementation.

(6) FUNDING.—The department's Division of Community Health Promotion and ~~Office of Minority Health and Health Equity~~ shall ~~work in partnership to~~ apply for federal funds that are available to assist the department in accomplishing the program's purpose and successfully implementing the program.

Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 409.91235, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.91235 Agency review and report on medications, treatments, and services for sickle cell disease.—

(1) The Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Florida Medical Schools Quality Network and a dedicated sickle cell disease medical treatment and research center that maintains a sickle cell patient database and tracks sickle cell disease outcome measures, shall, every 2

36-01306-26

20261486__

years:

(b)1. Develop a written report that details the review findings.

2. Beginning November 1, 2024, and by November 1 of every other year thereafter, post the report on the agency's website.

3. Submit a copy of the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Department of Health ~~Health's Office of Minority Health and Health Equity~~, and the Rare Disease Advisory Council.

Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.