

By Senator Gaetz

1-01396-26

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to veteran benefit payments to minor clients; amending s. 402.33, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, or the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to access certain benefit payments for specified purposes; prohibiting the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, or the Agency for Persons with Disabilities from supplanting certain financial assistance; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Present subsections (3) through (9) of section 402.33, Florida Statutes, are redesignated 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 may access benefit payments provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs which are in a combined account for postsecondary education services and support and aftercare services under s. 409.1451 when a minor client attains 18 years of age or, if enrolled in school, 23 years of age; however, the department may not supplant financial assistance provided in 409.1451(2) (b) .

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