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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/26/2010	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Storms) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 1352 and 1353  
insert:

Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 918.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

918.16 Sex offenses; testimony of person under age 16 or person with mental retardation; testimony of victim; courtroom cleared; exceptions.—

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), in the trial of any case, civil or criminal, when any person under the age of 16 or any person with intellectual disability ~~mental retardation~~ as



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13 defined in s. 393.063 is testifying concerning any sex offense,  
14 the court shall clear the courtroom of all persons except  
15 parties to the cause and their immediate families or guardians,  
16 attorneys and their secretaries, officers of the court, jurors,  
17 newspaper reporters or broadcasters, court reporters, and, at  
18 the request of the victim, victim or witness advocates  
19 designated by the state attorney's office.  
20

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

22 And the title is amended as follows:

23 Delete line 27

24 and insert:

25 916.303, 916.304, 918.16, 921.137, 941.38, 944.602,  
26 945.025,