

CS/CS/SB 1080 — Child Protective Services

by Judiciary Committee and Children and Families Committee

This bill amends ch. 39, F.S., Florida’s child protection statute, to conform to the federal Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA) in three major areas. These areas are reasonable efforts, case planning, and permanency.

As to reasonable efforts, the bill amends current law to:

- Describe when reasonable efforts are required; and
- Clarify the nature of reasonable efforts required regarding both parental and relative placements at the stages of dependency proceedings.

As to case planning, the bill amends current law to:

- Provide that agreeing to a case plan does not constitute an admission of wrongdoing or consent to a finding of dependency;
- Define “concurrent planning” and give direction for its use;
- Replace confusing pre-ASFA language relating to “extending the case plan” with clear direction as to the time frames and requirements for permanency hearings;
- Clarify the options available to the court when it becomes clear that a case plan cannot be completed within the first 12 months a child is in care;
- Provide new emphasis on current language that “time is of the essence” in case planning by placing that language more prominently in the statute; and
- Clarify the considerations and process to be used in amending a case plan.

As to permanency, the bill amends current law to:

- Define “permanency hearings,” “permanency plan,” and “permanency goal,” and
- Conform the permanency options under Florida law to those described in federal law.

The bill also includes language clarifying the restrictions placed on the use of child abuse reports and the ability of the Department of Children and Family Services to investigate reports that a child is without a responsible adult to provide care for the child.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 33-0; House 120-0

CS/SB 1278 — Youth/Young Adults with Disabilities

by Governmental Oversight and Productivity Committee and Senator Wise

The bill creates the Interagency Services Committee for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities in the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to recommend a coordinated, multidisciplinary, and interagency intervention service system for youth and young adults with disabilities. The stated legislative intent is to eliminate barriers to educational opportunities and enhance educational opportunities that will lead to future employment of these youth.

The bill requires that the committee consist of state agency heads, or designees, of agencies and bureaus or divisions of state agencies that have any statutory responsibilities for youth with disabilities. The committee is required to invite representation from a number of public and private organizations, an individual with a disability, and a parent or guardian of an individual with a disability. The members of the committee must designate one of its members as chairperson.

The bill requires that the committee identify the roles and responsibilities of each agency with regard to the committee goals; develop collaborative relationships to identify and assist in removing federal and state barriers to achieving the goals; design a mechanism to annually assess the progress toward the goals by each agency; collect and disseminate information on research-based practices of state and local agencies on successful strategies; develop and recommend strategies to encourage each public employer to hire persons with disabilities; and recommend a statewide system of accountability which would include incentives for service providers, including school districts, technical centers, community colleges; and businesses and industries to provide integrated competitive employment to individuals with disabilities.

The committee must present a report of its progress on these issues to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by March 1, 2007, and a final report on its findings and recommendations by January 1, 2008. The committee is abolished on June 1, 2008.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 120-0

CS/CS/SB 1286 — Substance Abuse and Mental Health

by Health Care Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senator Lynn

This bill revises the duties of the Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation, modifies membership requirements to include primary consumers, and delays the repeal of the corporation's authorizing statute until the year 2011.

The bill modifies legislative intent regarding community substance abuse and mental health services to include intent that the publicly funded system of services focus on recovery and resiliency and provide continuity of care for persons released from state correctional facilities into the community.

The bill reauthorizes the position of Assistant Secretary for Substance Abuse and Mental Health, and the Program Offices of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF), as repealed by ch. 2003-279, L.O.F.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-0

CS/CS/SB 1510 — Child Care Facilities

by Community Affairs Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senator Lynn

This bill requires child care providers to maintain compliance with child care standards in order to maintain their status as Gold Seal Quality Care providers. It authorizes the revocation of a facility's designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider for failing to meet specified standards. It requires the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF) to promulgate rules which provide criteria and procedures for reviewing and approving accrediting associations for participation in the Gold Seal Quality Care program, conferring and revoking designations of Gold Seal Quality Care providers, and classifying violations.

The bill revises provisions relating to the background screening of volunteers in child care settings regulated by DCF to make those provisions consistent with the screening requirements for other child care personnel.

The bill amends provisions relating to DCF's enforcement authority in registered family day care homes to provide the same escalating enforcement options available in other child care settings. Also, it provides DCF with the option of converting the license or registration of certain child care facilities to probation status. The department is required to adopt rules to establish the grounds for denial, suspension, revocation, or probation status for a license or registration for certain violations. The department must also establish a uniform system of procedures to impose disciplinary sanctions on licensed child care facilities, licensed large family child care homes, and licensed or registered family day care homes.

The bill extends the ability of DCF to issue provisional licenses to registered (as well as licensed) child care providers. The bill provides DCF with specific rule-making authority relating to safety standards in licensed family day care homes.

The bill moves responsibility for the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) program from DCF to the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

Finally, the bill creates s. 402.317, F.S., to allow child care to be provided for 24 hours or longer when the parent or legal guardian works a shift of 24 hours or longer. This new section requires that the employer document the shift assignment and limits the total child care to 72 consecutive hours in any seven-day period. It authorizes waiving all time limitations for child care when a state of emergency has been declared.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 120-0

SB 1850 — CFS Department Programs

by Senators Rich and Lynn (CS/SB 1034 by Health Care Committee and Senators Rich and Campbell)

Senate Bill 1850 deletes a provision in s. 397.451(1)(f), F.S., requiring immediate dismissal of an employee of a licensed substance abuse treatment provider upon disapproval of a request for an exemption from disqualification based on the results of employment screening. However, it also removes language in ch. 397, F.S., that is in conflict with the employment screening requirements in ch. 435, F.S., and references the appropriate section of ch. 435, F.S. It prohibits the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF) from issuing a regular license to a substance abuse treatment provider if that provider fails to show proof that background screening information on employees has been submitted.

Sections 1 through 4 of SB 1850 contain the provisions of CS/SB 1034 which adds marriage and family therapists (MFTs) licensed under ch. 491, F.S., to the list of mental health professionals who can execute a certificate authorizing the involuntary examination of persons pursuant to ch. 394, part I, F.S., (the Baker Act); defines “marriage and family therapist” and “mental health counselor” for purposes of ch. 394, part I, F.S.; revises the definition of “service provider” to include MFTs and mental health counselors (MHCs); authorizes MFTs and MHCs to determine if the services recommended in a treatment plan for an individual being considered for involuntary outpatient treatment are clinically appropriate; requires any evaluations performed by an MFT or an MHC to be included in any documentation provided to a treatment facility director when an individual is ordered to involuntary inpatient placement.

The bill amends s. 383.0115, F.S., deleting the repeal of the Commission on Marriage and Family Support Initiatives and requiring that the Department of Children and Family Services advise the Legislature when the commission fails to serve an essential public purpose.

The bill also saves from repeal s. 20.19(2)(c), F.S., which creates the Assistant Secretary for Substance Abuse and Mental Health in DCF and s. 20.19(4)(b)6. and 8., F.S., which creates the Mental Health Program Office and the Substance Abuse Program Office.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 120-0

HB 21 — Social Status/Black Men and Boys

by Rep. Peterman and others (CS/CS/SB 436 by Justice Appropriations Committee; Governmental Oversight and Productivity Committee; and Senators Wilson, Hill, Miller, Crist, and Bullard)

This bill creates the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys within the Department of Legal Affairs and provides for the appointment and qualification of members. This bill requires the Attorney General to organize the initial meeting of the council and serve as presiding officer until a chairperson is elected. The council is directed to make a systematic study of the conditions affecting black men and boys, including homicide rates, arrest and incarceration rates, poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate annual income levels, school performance in all grade levels, and health issues.

The council is directed to propose measures to alleviate and correct the underlying causes of the conditions described above. The council is to issue its initial annual report by December 15, 2007, with its findings, conclusions, and recommendations and issue a report by December 15 of each year thereafter. The legislation authorizing the council expires July 1, 2012.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect: January 1, 2007.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 116-0

HB 175 — Drug Court Programs

by Rep. Adams and others (CS/CS/CS/CS SB's 114 and 444 by Justice Appropriations Committee; Criminal Justice Committee; Judiciary Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senators Lynn, Campbell, Miller, Smith, and Crist)

This bill creates the "Robert J. Koch Drug Court Intervention Act" and amends several sections of statute that relate to the dependency system, referral to treatment-based drug courts, and referral for pretrial intervention.

This bill modifies laws regarding treatment-based drug court programs in dependency, criminal, and delinquency proceedings. The bill authorizes a court, in a dependency case, to order a person who has custody or is requesting custody of a child to be evaluated for drug or alcohol problems at any time after a shelter petition or petition for dependency is filed. Additionally, it allows the court, after an adjudication of dependency or a finding of dependency where adjudication is

withheld, to require participation in and compliance with treatment-based drug court programs. Individuals involved in a dependency case may voluntarily enter drug court prior to an adjudication of dependency or a finding of dependency where adjudication is withheld.

In adult criminal and juvenile delinquency courts, treatment-based drug court programs have traditionally been structured as pretrial intervention programs. This bill requires that entry into any pretrial treatment-based drug court program must be voluntary. Additionally, voluntary participants must acknowledge in writing that they understand the requirements of the program and the potential sanctions for noncompliance. This bill also provides that counties with treatment-based drug court programs may adopt a protocol of sanctions for noncompliance with program rules. If a protocol of sanctions is adopted, it may include, but is not limited to: (a) placement in a substance abuse treatment program offered by a licensed service provider; (b) placement in a jail-based treatment program; or (c) serving a period of secure detention if a child or a period of incarceration within the time limits established for contempt of court if an adult. These provisions of the bill address recent case law holding that incarceration or a licensed substance abuse treatment program may not be imposed for noncompliance with pretrial drug court programs as such sanctions are not authorized by current law.

The court, in conjunction with other public agencies, may oversee progress and compliance with treatment and may impose appropriate available sanctions for noncompliance. The court may also make a finding of noncompliance for consideration in determining whether an alternate placement of the child is in the child's best interests.

A person enrolled in a treatment-based drug court program established under s. 397.334, F.S., is subject to a coordinated strategy developed by the drug court team that may include a protocol of sanctions for noncompliance with dependency drug court program rules. If a protocol of sanctions is adopted, it may include, but is not limited to: (a) placement in a substance abuse treatment program offered by a licensed service provider; (b) placement in a jail-based treatment program; or (c) serving a period of secure detention if a child or a period of incarceration within the time limits established for contempt of court if an adult.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 118-0

HB 329 — Adult Protective Services

by Rep. Culp and others (CS/SB 1182 by Children and Families Committee and Senators Rich and Crist)

House Bill 329 amends s. 415.102(1), F.S., the definition of "abuse," to incorporate abuse by household members and relatives not in a caregiver role. Also, the bill amends s. 415.102(15), F.S., in order to redefine the term "neglect" to incorporate neglect by a vulnerable adult of himself or herself. This bill also amends s. 415.1051, F.S., to enable the Department of Children

and Families (DCF) to petition the court for an order authorizing the provision of protective services if a “vulnerable adult in need of services” is being abused, neglected, or exploited and needs protective services but lacks the capacity to consent to the protection. The bill amends s. 415.107, F.S., to allow the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) to gain access to information in the central abuse hotline.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 118-0

HB 351 — Community Residential Homes

by Rep. Lopez-Cantera and others (CS/SB 1006 by Community Affairs Committee and Senator Fasano)

The bill amends s. 419.001, F.S., to revise the definition of “community residential home” to include homes whose residents are clients of agencies other than the Department of Children and Families, specifically the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Elderly Affairs, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and programs licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration to conform with the divestiture of programs to those agencies. The bill does not expand the pool of potential residents of community residential homes as defined in ch. 419, F.S. It deletes the definition of “department” as the Department of Children and Family Services.

The bill requires that, prior to occupancy, the home’s sponsoring agency must provide the local government with the most recently published compiled data that identifies all community residential homes in the district in which the proposed site is located, to confirm that no other community residential home is within a radius of 1,000 feet of the proposed home with six or fewer residents.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect: July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 118-2

HB 595 — Community Behavioral Health Agencies

by Rep. Cannon (CS/SB 280 by Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee and Senators Fasano and Lynn)

The bill creates s. 394.9085, F.S., to specify that certain facilities or programs [a detoxification program defined in s. 397.311(18)(b), F.S., an addictions receiving facility defined in s. 397.311(18)(a), F.S., or a designated public receiving facility defined in s. 394.455(26), F.S.] have limited liability in negligence actions based on services for stabilization of a mental health or substance abuse crisis. The bill requires that net economic damages be limited to \$1 million per liability claim, including but not limited to past and future medical expenses, wage loss, and loss of earning capacity. Conditional limitations on damages specified by this act shall be increased at the rate of five percent each year, to be prorated from its effective date to the date at

which damages subject to such limitations are awarded by final judgment or settlement. The provider is required to obtain and maintain general liability minimum coverage in the amount of \$1 million per claim and \$3 million per incident. Any noneconomic damages against the entities specified by this bill are limited to \$200,000 per claim.

The bill indicates that liability limitations enjoyed by a provider extend to an employee of the provider when the employee is acting in furtherance of the provider's responsibilities under its contract with the Department of Children and Families. The bill further provides that a provider or employee who acts in a culpably negligent manner or with willful and wanton disregard or unprovoked physical aggression when such acts result in injury or death is not granted liability limitations by this legislation. Current DCF contract language specifies that a provider is an independent contractor, not an agent of the state. The provisions of this bill specify that a person who provides contractual services for the department is not an employee or agent of the state for the purposes of ch. 440, F.S., Workers' Compensation.

The bill specifies that the newly-created section shall not be construed to waive sovereign immunity for any governmental unit or other entity protected by sovereign immunity. Further, s. 768, F.S., regarding waiver of sovereign immunity in tort actions shall continue to apply to all governmental units and such entities.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 115-2

HB 1247 — Developmental Disabilities/Waiver

by Rep. Kravitz and others (CS/SB 2226 by Health Care Committee and Senator Rich)

The bill directs the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to expand the Medicaid home and community-based waiver program that serves children diagnosed with familial dysautonomia, also known as Riley-Day Syndrome, to serve adults.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 119-0

HB 1503 — Persons with Disabilities

by Rep. Galvano and others (CS/CS/SB 2012 by Judiciary Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senator Baker; SB 386 by Senator Campbell; SB 2662 by Senators Campbell and Lynn)

The bill makes substantive, conforming, and technical changes to sections of the Florida Statutes which relate to persons with developmental disabilities and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD or agency). Some of the changes are designed to conform statutory provisions

to the transfer in 2004 of the developmental disability program in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF or department) to the newly created agency. Other changes reflect recommendations from the agency as a result in changes in the financing and delivery of developmental disability services. These changes:

- Require confirmation by the Senate of the APD director (this provision was also contained in SB 386), and authorize a budget division and an operations division within the agency;
- Provide APD with access to the child abuse and vulnerable adult abuse records of the DCF for the purpose of facility licensure and employment screening;
- Delete language that authorizes certain court-ordered developmental disability services for children in dependency proceedings;
- Include adult day training services and personal care services within the community-based services that are medically necessary to prevent institutionalization;
- Make technical changes allowing the agency to purchase vehicles and exempt agency-licensed facilities from requiring food service licenses;
- Amend, update, and delete definitions and insert “people first” language;
- Add rule-making authority for client application procedures and eligibility criteria, facility licensing procedures and standards, criteria for imposing fines, in-home subsidies, use of restraint and seclusion, and certification of behavior analysts;
- Delete language that prohibits charging fees for placement in a residential program;
- Permit employees who are not involved in placement decisions to maintain ownership or employment with a private provider;
- Clarify provisions relating to background screening, closing a loophole that allows persons whose employment screening has not been completed to be unsupervised while providing services to agency clients. The bill exempts employees awaiting screening results but requires direct and constant visual supervision of any employee until the screening is complete and the exemption expires after 90 days;
- Reinstate a requirement for quarterly reassessment for in-home subsidies;
- Clarify that persons must be determined eligible for services by the agency to be involuntarily admitted to residential services;
- Delete language that prohibits denial of services due to inability to pay;
- Authorize the agency, DCF, and the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to promulgate rules for the use of physical restraints and seclusion (similar language was contained in SB 2662);

- Delete language referring to program review by statewide or local advocacy councils;
- Authorize facility residents to select members of advocacy groups from the community as members of resident government;
- Modify the definition of and criteria for sexual misconduct between an employee and a client, replacing the term “employee” with the term “covered person,” to clarify that volunteers, interns, contractors or any other person providing services are included, in addition to employees and paid staff members; clarify the covered person’s relationship to the client; expand the offense to include persons eligible to receive services from the agency; and require direct reporting rather than through the agency’s inspector general. This clarification also deletes the defense that the perpetrator had no reason to believe that the client was a member of the protected class and expands the protected class to all persons eligible for services under ch. 393, F.S. not just persons receiving residential services;
- Delete a requirement for the agency Inspector General to investigate an incident of sexual misconduct before reporting it to the state attorney;
- Eliminate training programs (i.e., sheltered workshops) as eligible for a loan under the Community Resource Development program;
- Clarify APD’s authority to establish certification programs for behavior analysts;
- Transfer provisions relating to comprehensive transitional education programs to a new section of statute;
- Conform provisions in ch. 400, F.S., relating to intermediate care facilities to changes in ch. 393, F.S.;
- Authorize APD to develop a consumer directed care program;
- Remove obsolete provisions, correct references, and reorganize sections of ch. 393, F.S., and statutes referencing that chapter; and
- Create part III of ch. 282, F.S., relating to accessibility of electronic information and information technology for state employees and certain members of the public with disabilities.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 37-0; House 117-0

HB 7007 — Child Support Services

by Governmental Operations and Rep. Rivera (CS/SB 1078 by Governmental Oversight and Productivity Committee and Children and Families Committee)

This bill re-enacts s. 61.1827, F.S., following review pursuant to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995, and removes the requirement for further routine Open Government Sunset Review of the statute.

Section 61.1827, F.S., makes confidential and exempt from public disclosure any information that reveals the identity of applicants for or recipients of child support services, including the name, address, and telephone number of such persons, held by a non-Title IV-D county child support agency.

The section defines “non-Title IV-D county child support agency,” as a department, division, or other agency of a county government which is operated by the county, excluding local depositories pursuant to s. 61.181, F.S., operated by the clerk of the court, to provide child support enforcement and depository services to county residents.

The section authorizes disclosure of the information in specified circumstances, primarily relating to law enforcement activities.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 10, 2006.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0

HB 7151 — Adoption

by Civil Justice and Rep. Mahon (CS/SB 408 by Judiciary Committee and Senator Campbell; CS/CS/SB 438 by Children and Families Committee; Judiciary Committee; and Senator Lawson)

The bill provides a mechanism for the Department of Health to receive notification of the filing of a petition for termination of parental rights. Additionally, the bill clarifies provisions relating to who may execute an irrevocable affidavit of paternity.

The bill also modifies the statute of repose related to adoption by providing that the interest which entitles a person to notice of an adoption must be direct, financial, and immediate and the person must show that he or she will gain or lose by the direct legal operation and effect of the judgment. Absent such a showing a person with indirect interest lacks standing to set aside a judgment of adoption.

The bill also contains the substance of CS/CS/SB 438, which permits a petition to set aside a determination of paternity or terminate a child support obligation, specifies the contents of such a petition, provides standards upon which relief can be granted, and provides remedies. The bill

provides for the amendment of a child's birth certificate and provides for assessment of costs and attorney's fees.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 33-5; House 106-3

HB 7173 — Welfare of Children

by Future of Florida's Families Committee and Rep. Galvano and others (CS/CS/CS/SB 1798 by Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee; Education Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senators Rich, Lynn, Atwater, and Bullard; CS/CS/SB 2470 by Education Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senators Peaden, Rich, and Lynn)

This bill:

- Creates the Office of Child Abuse Prevention within the Executive Office of the Governor;
- Establishes a Child Abuse Prevention Advisory Council;
- Grants rulemaking authority for the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to the Executive Office of the Governor;
- Provides access to child abuse records for agencies that provide early intervention and prevention services;
- Adds employees of public schools to the list of "other persons responsible for a child's welfare" about whom the Department of Children and Family Services is required to receive and investigate reports of child abuse;
- Requires the court to issue an order separate from other judicial review orders so that a caregiver can access educational, medical, or other services without revealing confidential details about the child to the service provider;
- Establishes legislative intent for the statewide and local advocacy councils, provides guidelines for the selection of the executive director of the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council, and establishes a process for investigating reports of abuse;
- Revises eligibility requirements for young adults to participate in the Road to Independence Program (contingent on funding), adds requirements for case planning for older foster children, removes the word "scholarship" from the Road to Independence Program, requires payment of Road to Independence funds to recipients by direct deposit (with some exceptions), and authorizes Community-Based Care lead agencies to purchase employment, housing, and transportation services directly for the benefit of young adults in the Road to Independence Program;

- Revises the definition of the term “boarding school” to require such schools to meet accreditation requirements and to allow existing boarding schools three years to comply;
- Revises s. 409.903, F.S., to expand eligibility for medical assistance payments to Road to Independence participants to age 20;
- Creates s. 743.045, F.S., to remove the disability of nonage for specified foster children for the purpose of entering into leases for residential property.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006, except as otherwise provided.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 118-0

HB 7199 — Forensic Treatment and Training

by Future of Florida’s Families Committee and Rep. Galvano (CS/CS/SB 2010 by Criminal Justice Committee; Children and Families Committee; and Senator Baker; SB 2662 by Senators Campbell and Lynn)

The bill amends ch. 916, F.S., relating to forensic services for persons with mental illnesses and persons with mental retardation or autism. The bill revises definitions and procedures for persons committed to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF or department) as defendants who are incompetent to stand trial due to a mental illness, mental retardation, or autism. It makes technical changes to conform procedures and criteria to the transfer of programs from DCF to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD or agency). It makes substantive changes which include:

- Updating definitions including “forensic client,” deleting commitment criteria from the definition and moving it to the appropriate section, creating a definition for “defendant” to distinguish persons who are not yet clients because they have not been committed.
- Requiring separate housing requirements for forensic clients (conforms to current practice).
- Clarifying provisions relating to defendants who are currently in the custody of the Department of Corrections.
- Adding references to APD and requiring the department to adopt rules governing the use of seclusion and restraint that reflect best practices and assure resident and staff safety, as well as providing for documentation in the client’s facility record.
- Allowing the transfer of court jurisdiction for forensic clients.
- Clarifying the distinction between ch. 916, F.S., forensic procedures for involuntary commitment, and ch. 393, F.S., procedures for non-forensic involuntary commitment.

- Deleting the provision in current law (s. 916.1075, F.S.), which requires the inspector general to immediately investigate allegations of sexual misconduct between an employee and a client in a forensic facility, and upon a finding of probable cause, to report it to the local state attorney.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 116-0