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FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to medically complex children; amending s. 39.001, F.S.; revising the purposes of ch. 39, F.S.; providing for the provision of services for medically complex children; conforming crossreferences; amending s. 39.01, F.S.; defining the term "medical neglect"; conforming cross-references; amending s. 39.303, F.S.; revising legislative intent; providing requirements for a child protection team that evaluates a report of medical neglect and assesses the health care needs of a medically complex child; creating s. 39.3068, F.S.; providing requirements for an investigation of medical neglect; amending s. 409.165, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the cost of services; requiring the Department of Children and Families to work with the Department of Health and the Agency for Health Care Administration to care for medically complex children; allowing the Department of Children and Families to place children in a medical foster home; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 409.962, F.S.; redefining the term "provider service network"; amending s. 409.967, F.S.; requiring Medicaid managed care plans to provide specified information on children under the care of the Department of Children and Families; amending s. 409.974, F.S.; providing for contracting with eligible plans; revising provisions relating to negotiation with a provider service network; providing

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requirements for termination of a contract with a provider service network; amending ss. 39.302, 39.524, 316.613, 409.1678, and 960.065, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (o) is added to subsection (1) of section 39.001, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (k) of that subsection is amended, present paragraphs (f) through (h) of subsection (3) of that section are redesignated as paragraphs (g) through (i), respectively, and a new paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, and present subsections (4) through (11) of that section are redesignated as subsections (5) through (12), respectively, a new subsection (4) is added to that section, and paragraph (c) of present subsection (8) and paragraph (b) of present subsection (10) of that section are amended, to read:

39.001 Purposes and intent; personnel standards and screening.—

(1) PURPOSES OF CHAPTER.—The purposes of this chapter are:

(k) To make every possible effort, <u>if</u> when two or more children who are in the care or under the supervision of the department are siblings, to place the siblings in the same home; and in the event of permanent placement of the siblings, to place them in the same adoptive home or, if the siblings are separated while under the care or supervision of the department or in a permanent placement, to keep them in contact with each other.

(o) To preserve and strengthen families who are caring for

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medically complex children.

(3) GENERAL PROTECTIONS FOR CHILDREN.—It is a purpose of the Legislature that the children of this state be provided with the following protections:

- (f) Access to sufficient home and community-based support for medically complex children to allow them to remain in the least restrictive and most nurturing environment, which includes sufficient home and community-based services in an amount and scope comparable to those the child would receive in out-of-home care placement.
- (4) SERVICES FOR MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHILDREN.—The department shall maintain a program of family-centered services and supports for medically complex children. The purpose of the program is to prevent abuse and neglect of medically complex children while enhancing the capacity of families to provide for their children's needs. Program services must include outreach, early intervention, and provision of home and community-based services such as care coordination, respite care, and direct home care. The department shall work with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Health to provide needed services.
  - (9) (8) OFFICE OF ADOPTION AND CHILD PROTECTION. -
  - (c) The office is authorized and directed to:
- 1. Oversee the preparation and implementation of the state plan established under subsection (10) (9) and revise and update the state plan as necessary.
- 2. Provide for or make available continuing professional education and training in the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

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3. Work to secure funding in the form of appropriations, gifts, and grants from the state, the Federal Government, and other public and private sources in order to ensure that sufficient funds are available for the promotion of adoption, support of adoptive families, and child abuse prevention efforts.

- 4. Make recommendations pertaining to agreements or contracts for the establishment and development of:
- a. Programs and services for the promotion of adoption, support of adoptive families, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- b. Training programs for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- c. Multidisciplinary and discipline-specific training programs for professionals with responsibilities affecting children, young adults, and families.
  - d. Efforts to promote adoption.
  - e. Postadoptive services to support adoptive families.
- 5. Monitor, evaluate, and review the development and quality of local and statewide services and programs for the promotion of adoption, support of adoptive families, and prevention of child abuse and neglect and shall publish and distribute an annual report of its findings on or before January 1 of each year to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the head of each state agency affected by the report, and the appropriate substantive committees of the Legislature. The report shall include:
  - a. A summary of the activities of the office.

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b. A summary of the adoption data collected and reported to the federal Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the federal Administration for Children and Families.

- c. A summary of the child abuse prevention data collected and reported to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the federal Administration for Children and Families.
- d. A summary detailing the timeliness of the adoption process for children adopted from within the child welfare system.
- e. Recommendations, by state agency, for the further development and improvement of services and programs for the promotion of adoption, support of adoptive families, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- f. Budget requests, adoption promotion and support needs, and child abuse prevention program needs by state agency.
- 6. Work with the direct-support organization established under s. 39.0011 to receive financial assistance.
  - (11) (10) FUNDING AND SUBSEQUENT PLANS.
- (b) The office and the other agencies and organizations listed in paragraph (10) (a) (9) (a) shall readdress the state plan and make necessary revisions every 5 years, at a minimum. Such revisions shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate no later than June 30 of each year divisible by 5. At least biennially, the office shall review the state plan and make any necessary revisions based on changing needs and program evaluation results. An annual progress report shall be submitted to update

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the state plan in the years between the 5-year intervals. In order to avoid duplication of effort, these required plans may be made a part of or merged with other plans required by either the state or Federal Government, so long as the portions of the other state or Federal Government plan that constitute the state plan for the promotion of adoption, support of adoptive families, and prevention of child abuse, abandonment, and neglect are clearly identified as such and are provided to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate as required above.

Section 2. Present subsections (42) through (76) of section 39.01, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (43) through (77), respectively, a new subsection (42) is added to that section, and subsections (10) and (33) are amended, to read:

- 39.01 Definitions.—When used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (10) "Caregiver" means the parent, legal custodian, permanent guardian, adult household member, or other person responsible for a child's welfare as defined in subsection (48)
- (33) "Institutional child abuse or neglect" means situations of known or suspected child abuse or neglect in which the person allegedly perpetrating the child abuse or neglect is an employee of a private school, public or private day care center, residential home, institution, facility, or agency or any other person at such institution responsible for the child's care as defined in subsection (48) (47).
  - (42) "Medical neglect" means the failure to provide or to

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allow needed care as recommended by a health care practitioner
for a physical injury, illness, medical condition, or
impairment, or the failure to seek timely and appropriate
medical care for a serious health problem that a reasonable
person would have recognized as requiring professional medical
attention. Medical neglect does not occur if:

- (a) The parent or legal custodian of the child has made reasonable attempts to obtain necessary health care services or the immediate health condition giving rise to the allegation of neglect is a known and expected complication of the child's diagnosis or treatment; and
- (b) The recommended care offers limited net benefit to the child and the morbidity or other side effects of the treatment may be considered to be greater than the anticipated benefit.

Section 3. Section 39.303, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.303 Child protection teams; services; eligible cases.—
The Children's Medical Services Program in the Department of
Health shall develop, maintain, and coordinate the services of
one or more multidisciplinary child protection teams in each of
the service districts of the Department of Children and Family
Services. Such teams may be composed of appropriate
representatives of school districts and appropriate health,
mental health, social service, legal service, and law
enforcement agencies. The Legislature finds that optimal
coordination of child protection teams and sexual abuse
treatment programs requires collaboration between The Department
of Health and the Department of Children and Families Family
Services. The two departments shall maintain an interagency

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agreement that establishes protocols for oversight and operations of child protection teams and sexual abuse treatment programs. The State Surgeon General and the Deputy Secretary for Children's Medical Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Children and Family Services, shall maintain the responsibility for the screening, employment, and, if necessary, the termination of child protection team medical directors, at headquarters and in the 15 districts. Child protection team medical directors shall be responsible for oversight of the teams in the districts.

- (1) The Department of Health shall <u>use utilize</u> and convene the teams to supplement the assessment and protective supervision activities of the family safety and preservation program of the Department of Children and <u>Families Family Services</u>. Nothing in This section <u>does not shall be construed to remove or reduce the duty and responsibility of any person to report pursuant to this chapter all suspected or actual cases of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect or sexual abuse of a child. The role of the teams shall be to support activities of the program and to provide services deemed by the teams to be necessary and appropriate to abused, abandoned, and neglected children upon referral. The specialized diagnostic assessment, evaluation, coordination, consultation, and other supportive services that a child protection team shall be capable of providing include, but are not limited to, the following:</u>
- (a) Medical diagnosis and evaluation services, including provision or interpretation of X rays and laboratory tests, and related services, as needed, and documentation of <u>related</u> findings <del>relative thereto</del>.

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(b) Telephone consultation services in emergencies and in other situations.

- (c) Medical evaluation related to abuse, abandonment, or neglect, as defined by policy or rule of the Department of Health.
- (d) Such psychological and psychiatric diagnosis and evaluation services for the child or the child's parent or parents, legal custodian or custodians, or other caregivers, or any other individual involved in a child abuse, abandonment, or neglect case, as the team may determine to be needed.
- (e) Expert medical, psychological, and related professional testimony in court cases.
- (f) Case staffings to develop treatment plans for children whose cases have been referred to the team. A child protection team may provide consultation with respect to a child who is alleged or is shown to be abused, abandoned, or neglected. The which consultation shall be provided at the request of a representative of the family safety and preservation program or at the request of any other professional involved with a child or the child's parent or parents, legal custodian or custodians, or other caregivers. In every such child protection team case staffing, consultation, or staff activity involving a child, a family safety and preservation program representative shall attend and participate.
- (g) Case service coordination and assistance, including the location of services available from other public and private agencies in the community.
- (h) Such training services for program and other employees of the Department of Children and Families Family Services,

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employees of the Department of Health, and other medical professionals as is deemed appropriate to enable them to develop and maintain their professional skills and abilities in handling child abuse, abandonment, and neglect cases.

- (i) Educational and community awareness campaigns on child abuse, abandonment, and neglect in an effort to enable citizens more successfully to prevent, identify, and treat child abuse, abandonment, and neglect in the community.
- (j) Child protection team assessments that include, as appropriate, medical evaluations, medical consultations, family psychosocial interviews, specialized clinical interviews, or forensic interviews.

All medical personnel participating on a child protection team must successfully complete the required child protection team training curriculum as set forth in protocols determined by the Deputy Secretary for Children's Medical Services and the Statewide Medical Director for Child Protection. A child protection team that is evaluating a report of medical neglect and assessing the health care needs of a medically complex child shall consult with a physician who has experience in treating children with the same condition.

- (2) The child abuse, abandonment, and neglect reports that must be referred by the department to child protection teams of the Department of Health for an assessment and other appropriate available support services as set forth in subsection (1) must include cases involving:
- (a) Injuries to the head, bruises to the neck or head, burns, or fractures in a child of any age.

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(b) Bruises anywhere on a child 5 years of age or under.

- (c) Any report alleging sexual abuse of a child.
- (d) Any sexually transmitted disease in a prepubescent child.
- (e) Reported malnutrition of a child and failure of a child to thrive.
  - (f) Reported medical neglect of a child.
- (g) Any family in which one or more children have been pronounced dead on arrival at a hospital or other health care facility, or have been injured and later died, as a result of suspected abuse, abandonment, or neglect, when any sibling or other child remains in the home.
- (h) Symptoms of serious emotional problems in a child when emotional or other abuse, abandonment, or neglect is suspected.
- (3) All abuse and neglect cases transmitted for investigation to a district by the hotline must be simultaneously transmitted to the Department of Health child protection team for review. For the purpose of determining whether face-to-face medical evaluation by a child protection team is necessary, all cases transmitted to the child protection team which meet the criteria in subsection (2) must be timely reviewed by:
- (a) A physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 who holds board certification in pediatrics and is a member of a child protection team;
- (b) A physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 who holds board certification in a specialty other than pediatrics, who may complete the review only when working under the direction of a physician licensed under chapter 458 or

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chapter 459 who holds board certification in pediatrics and is a member of a child protection team;

- (c) An advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 464 who has a <u>specialty</u> speciality in pediatrics or family medicine and is a member of a child protection team;
- (d) A physician assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, who may complete the review only when working under the supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 who holds board certification in pediatrics and is a member of a child protection team; or
- (e) A registered nurse licensed under chapter 464, who may complete the review only when working under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 who holds certification in pediatrics and is a member of a child protection team.
- (4) A face-to-face medical evaluation by a child protection team is not necessary when:
- (a) The child was examined for the alleged abuse or neglect by a physician who is not a member of the child protection team, and a consultation between the child protection team board-certified pediatrician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, physician assistant working under the supervision of a child protection team board-certified pediatrician, or registered nurse working under the direct supervision of a child protection team board-certified pediatrician, and the examining physician concludes that a further medical evaluation is unnecessary;
- (b) The child protective investigator, with supervisory approval, has determined, after conducting a child safety assessment, that there are no indications of injuries as

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described in paragraphs (2)(a)-(h) as reported; or

(c) The child protection team board-certified pediatrician, as authorized in subsection (3), determines that a medical evaluation is not required.

- Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), a child protection team pediatrician, as authorized in subsection (3), may determine that a face-to-face medical evaluation is necessary.
- (5) In all instances in which a child protection team is providing certain services to abused, abandoned, or neglected children, other offices and units of the Department of Health, and offices and units of the Department of Children and <u>Families</u> Family Services, shall avoid duplicating the provision of those services.
- (6) The Department of Health child protection team quality assurance program and the Department of Children and Families' Family Services' Family Safety Program Office quality assurance program shall collaborate to ensure referrals and responses to child abuse, abandonment, and neglect reports are appropriate. Each quality assurance program shall include a review of records in which there are no findings of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, and the findings of these reviews shall be included in each department's quality assurance reports.
- Section 4. Section 39.3068, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
  - 39.3068 Reports of medical neglect.
- (1) A report of medical neglect as defined in s. 39.01 must be investigated by staff who have specialized training in medical neglect and medically complex children.

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(2) The investigation must identify any immediate medical needs of the child and must use a family-centered approach to assess the capacity of the family to meet those needs.

- (3) A family-centered approach is intended to increase independence on the part of the family, accessibility to programs and services within the community, and collaboration between families and their service providers. The ethnic, cultural, economic, racial, social, and religious diversity of families must be respected and considered in the development and provision of services.
- (4) An investigation of cases involving medically complex children must include determination of Medicaid coverage for needed services and coordination with the Agency for Health Care Administration to secure such covered services.

Section 5. Section 409.165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.165 Alternate care for children.-

(1) Within funds appropriated, the department shall establish and supervise a program of emergency shelters, runaway shelters, foster homes, group homes, agency-operated group treatment homes, nonpsychiatric residential group care facilities, psychiatric residential treatment facilities, and other appropriate facilities to provide shelter and care for dependent children who must be placed away from their families. The department, in accordance with <u>outcome</u> <u>established</u> goals <u>established</u> in s. 409.986, shall contract for the provision of such shelter and care by counties, municipalities, nonprofit corporations, and other entities capable of providing needed services if:

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(a) The services so provided <u>comply with all department</u> standards, policies, and procedures <del>are available</del>;

- (b) The services <u>can be</u> so provided <u>at a reasonable cost</u> are more cost-effective than those provided by the department; and
- (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, such providers of shelter and care are licensed by the department.

## It is the legislative intent that the

- (2) Funds appropriated for the alternate care of children as described in this section may be used to meet the needs of children in their own homes or those of relatives if the children can be safely served in such settings their own homes, or the homes of relatives, and the expenditure of funds in such manner is equal to or less than the cost of out-of-home placement calculated by the department to be an eventual cost savings over placement of children.
- (3) (2) The department shall may cooperate with all child service institutions or agencies within the state which meet the department's standards in order to maintain a comprehensive, coordinated, and inclusive system for promoting and protecting the well-being of children, consistent with the goals established in s. 409.986 rules for proper care and supervision prescribed by the department for the well-being of children.
- (a) The department shall work with the Department of Health in the development, utilization, and monitoring of medical foster homes for medically complex children.
- (b) The department shall work with the Agency for Health
  Care Administration to provide such home and community-based

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services as may be necessary to maintain medically complex children in the least restrictive and most nurturing environment.

- $\underline{(4)}$  (3) With the written consent of parents, custodians, or guardians, or in accordance with those provisions in chapter 39 that relate to dependent children, the department, under rules properly adopted, may place a child:
  - (a) With a relative;
- (b) With an adult nonrelative approved by the court for long-term custody;
- (c) With a person who is considering the adoption of a child in the manner provided for by law;
- (d) When limited, except as provided in paragraph (b), to temporary emergency situations, with a responsible adult approved by the court;
- (e) With a person or family approved by the department to serve as a medical foster home;
- $\underline{\text{(f)}}$  (e) With a person or agency licensed by the department in accordance with s. 409.175; or
- $\underline{\text{(g)}}$  In a subsidized independent living situation, subject to the provisions of s. 409.1451(4)(c),

under such conditions as are determined to be for the best interests or the welfare of the child. Any child placed in an institution or in a family home by the department or its agency may be removed by the department or its agency, and such other disposition may be made as is for the best interest of the child, including transfer of the child to another institution, another home, or the home of the child. Expenditure of funds

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appropriated for out-of-home care can be used to meet the needs of a child in the child's own home or the home of a relative if the child can be safely served in the child's own home or that of a relative if placement can be avoided by the expenditure of such funds, and if the expenditure of such funds in this manner is equal to or less than the cost of out-of-home placement calculated by the department to be a potential cost savings.

Section 6. Subsection (13) of section 409.962, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.962 Definitions.—As used in this part, except as otherwise specifically provided, the term:

(13) "Provider service network" means an entity qualified pursuant to s. 409.912(4)(d) of which a controlling interest is owned by a health care provider, or group of affiliated providers affiliated for the purpose of providing health care, or a public agency or entity that delivers health services. Health care providers include Florida-licensed health care professionals or licensed health care facilities, federally qualified health care centers, and home health care agencies.

Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 409.967, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.967 Managed care plan accountability.-
- (2) The agency shall establish such contract requirements as are necessary for the operation of the statewide managed care program. In addition to any other provisions the agency may deem necessary, the contract must require:
  - (c) Access.-
- 1. The agency shall establish specific standards for the number, type, and regional distribution of providers in managed

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care plan networks to ensure access to care for both adults and children. Each plan must maintain a regionwide network of providers in sufficient numbers to meet the access standards for specific medical services for all recipients enrolled in the plan. The exclusive use of mail-order pharmacies may not be sufficient to meet network access standards. Consistent with the standards established by the agency, provider networks may include providers located outside the region. A plan may contract with a new hospital facility before the date the hospital becomes operational if the hospital has commenced construction, will be licensed and operational by January 1, 2013, and a final order has issued in any civil or administrative challenge. Each plan shall establish and maintain an accurate and complete electronic database of contracted providers, including information about licensure or registration, locations and hours of operation, specialty credentials and other certifications, specific performance indicators, and such other information as the agency deems necessary. The database must be available online to both the agency and the public and have the capability to compare the availability of providers to network adequacy standards and to accept and display feedback from each provider's patients. Each plan shall submit quarterly reports to the agency identifying the number of enrollees assigned to each primary care provider.

2. Each managed care plan must publish any prescribed drug formulary or preferred drug list on the plan's website in a manner that is accessible to and searchable by enrollees and providers. The plan must update the list within 24 hours after making a change. Each plan must ensure that the prior

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authorization process for prescribed drugs is readily accessible to health care providers, including posting appropriate contact information on its website and providing timely responses to providers. For Medicaid recipients diagnosed with hemophilia who have been prescribed anti-hemophilic-factor replacement products, the agency shall provide for those products and hemophilia overlay services through the agency's hemophilia disease management program.

- 3. Managed care plans, and their fiscal agents or intermediaries, must accept prior authorization requests for any service electronically.
- 4. Managed care plans serving children in the care and custody of the Department of Children and Families must maintain complete medical, dental, and behavioral health information and provide such information to the department for inclusion in the state's child welfare data system. Using such documentation, the agency and the department shall determine the plan's compliance with standards for access to medical, dental, and behavioral health services, the use of psychotropic medications, and followup on all medically necessary services recommended as a result of early and periodic screening diagnosis and treatment.

Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 409.974, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.974 Eligible plans.-

- (1) ELIGIBLE PLAN SELECTION AND CONTRACTING.—The agency shall select eligible plans through the procurement process described in s. 409.966. The agency shall notice invitations to negotiate no later than January 1, 2013.
  - (a) The agency shall procure and contract with two plans

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for Region 1. At least one plan shall be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.

- (b) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> two plans for Region 2. At least one plan shall be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (c) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least three plans and up to five plans for Region 3. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (d) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least three plans and up to five plans for Region 4. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (e) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least two plans and up to four plans for Region 5. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (f) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least four plans and up to seven plans for Region 6. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (g) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least three plans and up to six plans for Region 7. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (h) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least two plans and up to four plans for Region 8. At least one plan must

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be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.

- (i) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least two plans and up to four plans for Region 9. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (j) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least two plans and up to four plans for Region 10. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.
- (k) The agency shall procure <u>and contract with</u> at least five plans and up to 10 plans for Region 11. At least one plan must be a provider service network if any provider service networks submit a responsive bid.

If no provider service network submits a responsive bid, the agency shall procure and contract with no more than one less than the maximum number of eligible plans permitted in that region, and, within the next. Within 12 months after the initial invitation to negotiate, the agency shall issue an invitation to negotiate in order attempt to procure and contract with a provider service network. The agency shall terminate the contract and provide notice for another invitation to negotiate when changes in the corporate ownership and structure of the only with provider service network networks in a region causes the managed care plan to no longer meet the definition of a provider service network under s. 409.962(13) those regions where no provider service network has been selected.

Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 39.302, Florida

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Statutes, is amended to read:

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39.302 Protective investigations of institutional child abuse, abandonment, or neglect.—

(1) The department shall conduct a child protective investigation of each report of institutional child abuse, abandonment, or neglect. Upon receipt of a report that alleges that an employee or agent of the department, or any other entity or person covered by s. 39.01(33) or (48)  $\frac{(47)}{}$ , acting in an official capacity, has committed an act of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect, the department shall initiate a child protective investigation within the timeframe established under s. 39.201(5) and notify the appropriate state attorney, law enforcement agency, and licensing agency, which shall immediately conduct a joint investigation, unless independent investigations are more feasible. When conducting investigations or having face-to-face interviews with the child, investigation visits shall be unannounced unless it is determined by the department or its agent that unannounced visits threaten the safety of the child. If a facility is exempt from licensing, the department shall inform the owner or operator of the facility of the report. Each agency conducting a joint investigation is entitled to full access to the information gathered by the department in the course of the investigation. A protective investigation must include an interview with the child's parent or legal quardian. The department shall make a full written report to the state attorney within 3 working days after making the oral report. A criminal investigation shall be coordinated, whenever possible, with the child protective investigation of the department. Any interested person who has information

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regarding the offenses described in this subsection may forward a statement to the state attorney as to whether prosecution is warranted and appropriate. Within 15 days after the completion of the investigation, the state attorney shall report the findings to the department and shall include in the report a determination of whether or not prosecution is justified and appropriate in view of the circumstances of the specific case.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 39.524, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.524 Safe-harbor placement.

(1) Except as provided in s. 39.407 or s. 985.801, a dependent child 6 years of age or older who has been found to be a victim of sexual exploitation as defined in s. 39.01(68)(g) s. 39.01(67) (q) must be assessed for placement in a safe house as provided in s. 409.1678. The assessment shall be conducted by the department or its agent and shall incorporate and address current and historical information from any law enforcement reports; psychological testing or evaluation that has occurred; current and historical information from the quardian ad litem, if one has been assigned; current and historical information from any current therapist, teacher, or other professional who has knowledge of the child and has worked with the child; and any other information concerning the availability and suitability of safe-house placement. If such placement is determined to be appropriate as a result of this assessment, the child may be placed in a safe house, if one is available. As used in this section, the term "available" as it relates to a placement means a placement that is located within the circuit or otherwise reasonably accessible.

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Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 316.613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.613 Child restraint requirements.-

(6) The child restraint requirements imposed by this section do not apply to a chauffeur-driven taxi, limousine, sedan, van, bus, motor coach, or other passenger vehicle if the operator and the motor vehicle are hired and used for the transportation of persons for compensation. It is the obligation and responsibility of the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for a child's welfare, as defined in s. 39.01(47), to comply with the requirements of this section.

Section 12. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 409.1678, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.1678 Safe harbor for children who are victims of sexual exploitation.—

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (d) "Sexually exploited child" means a dependent child who has suffered sexual exploitation as defined in  $\underline{s. 39.01(68)(g)}$   $\underline{s. 39.01(67)(g)}$  and is ineligible for relief and benefits under the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act, 22 U.S.C. ss. 7101 et seq.

Section 13. Subsection (5) of section 960.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

960.065 Eligibility for awards.-

(5) A person is not ineligible for an award pursuant to paragraph (2)(a), paragraph (2)(b), or paragraph (2)(c) if that person is a victim of sexual exploitation of a child as defined in  $\underline{s. 39.01(68)(g)}$   $\underline{s. 39.01(67)(g)}$ .

Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.