



135856

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/10/2015	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Dean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 937.041, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

937.041 Missing person with special needs pilot program.-

(1) There is created a pilot program in Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, and Suwannee Counties to be known as Project Leo for the purpose of providing personal assistive technology devices



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11 to aid search and rescue efforts for persons with special needs
12 in the case of elopement.

13 (2) Participants for the pilot program shall be selected
14 based on criteria developed by the Center for Autism and Related
15 Disabilities at the University of Florida. Criteria for
16 participation must include, at a minimum, the individual's risk
17 of elopement. The qualifying participants shall be selected on a
18 first-come, first-served basis by the center to the extent of
19 available funding within the center's existing resources. The
20 pilot program shall be voluntary and free to participants.

21 (3) Under the pilot program, personal devices to aid search
22 and rescue efforts that are attachable to clothing or otherwise
23 worn shall be provided by the center to the sheriff's offices of
24 the participating counties. The devices shall be distributed to
25 participants by the county sheriff's offices in conjunction with
26 the center. The center shall fund any costs associated with
27 monitoring the devices.

28 (4) The center shall submit a preliminary report by
29 December 1, 2015, and a final report by December 15, 2016, to
30 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
31 the House of Representatives describing the implementation and
32 operation of the pilot program. At a minimum, the report must
33 include the criteria used to select participants, the number of
34 participants, the age of the participants, the nature of the
35 participants' special needs, the number of participants who
36 elope, the amount of time taken to rescue participants following
37 elopement, and the outcome of any rescue attempts. The final
38 report must also provide recommendations for modification or
39 continued implementation of the pilot program.



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40 (5) The pilot program shall operate to the extent of
41 available funding within the center's existing resources.

42 (6) This section expires June 30, 2017.

43 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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

45 And the title is amended as follows:

46 Delete everything before the enacting clause
47 and insert:

48 A bill to be entitled
49 An act relating to missing persons with special needs;
50 creating s. 937.041, F.S.; establishing a pilot
51 program in specified counties for the purpose of
52 providing personal assistive technology devices to
53 persons with special needs to aid in certain search
54 and rescue efforts; providing for administration of
55 the pilot program; requiring submittal of certain
56 reports to the Governor and the Legislature by
57 specified dates; providing for expiration of the pilot
58 program; providing an effective date.