2017 Legislature

1	
2	An act relating to the Department of Corrections;
3	amending s. 943.04, F.S.; authorizing the Department
4	of Law Enforcement to issue an investigative demand
5	seeking the production of an inmate's protected health
6	information, medical records, or mental health records
7	under certain circumstances; specifying requirements
8	for the investigative demand; amending s. 944.151,
9	F.S.; revising legislative intent; revising membership
10	requirements for the safety and security review
11	committee appointed by the Department of Corrections;
12	specifying the duties of the committee; requiring the
13	department to direct appropriate staff to complete
14	specified duties of the department; revising
15	scheduling requirements for inspections of state and
16	private correctional institutions and facilities;
17	revising the list of institutions that must be given
18	priority for inspection; revising the list of
19	institutions that must be given priority for certain
20	security audits; revising minimum audit and evaluation
21	requirements; requiring the department to direct
22	appropriate staff to review staffing policies and
23	practices as needed; conforming provisions to changes
24	made by the act; amending s. 944.17, F.S.; authorizing
25	the department to receive specified documents

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26	electronically at its discretion; amending s. 944.275,
27	F.S.; revising the conditions on which an inmate may
28	be granted a one-time award of 60 additional days of
29	incentive gain-time by the department; clarifying when
30	gain-time may be earned; amending s. 944.597, F.S.;
31	revising provisions relating to training of transport
32	company's employees before transporting prisoners;
33	amending s. 945.36, F.S.; exempting employees of a
34	contracted community correctional center from certain
35	health testing regulations for the limited purpose of
36	administering urine screen drug tests on inmates and
37	releasees; amending s. 958.11, F.S.; deleting a
38	provision authorizing the department to assign 18-
39	year-old youthful offenders to the 19-24 age group
40	facility under certain circumstances; deleting a
41	condition that all female youth offenders are allowed
42	to continue to be housed together only until certain
43	institutions are established or adapted for separation
44	by age and custody classifications; authorizing
45	inmates who are 17 years of age or under to be placed
46	at an adult facility for specified purposes, subject
47	to certain conditions; authorizing the department to
48	retain certain youthful offenders until 25 years of
49	age in a facility designated for 18- to 22-year-old
50	youth offenders under certain circumstances;
<u> </u>	Dave 2 of 21

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2017 Legislature

51	conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
52	amending s. 921.002, F.S.; conforming a cross-
53	reference; providing an effective date.
54	
55	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
56	
57	Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 943.04,
58	Florida Statutes, to read:
59	943.04 Criminal Justice Investigations and Forensic
60	Science Program; creation; investigative, forensic, and related
61	authority
62	(6)(a) In furtherance of the duties and responsibilities
63	of the inspector general under s. 944.31, if the Department of
64	Law Enforcement is conducting an investigation or assisting in
65	the investigation of an injury to or death of an inmate which
66	occurs while the inmate is under the custody or control of the
67	Department of Corrections, the department is authorized to,
68	before the initiation of a criminal proceeding relating to such
69	injury or death, issue in writing and serve upon the Department
70	of Corrections an investigative demand seeking the production of
71	the inmate's protected health information, medical records, or
72	mental health records as specified in s. 945.10(1)(a). The
73	department shall use such records for the limited purpose of
74	investigating or assisting in an investigation of an injury to
75	or death of an inmate for which the records were requested. Any

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76	records disclosed pursuant to this subsection remain
77	confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I
78	of the State Constitution in accordance with s. 945.10(2).
79	(b) The investigative demand must be specific and limited
80	in scope to the extent reasonably practicable in light of the
81	purpose for which the protected health information or records
82	are sought and must include a certification that:
83	1. The protected health information or records sought are
84	relevant and material to a legitimate law enforcement inquiry;
85	2. There is a clear connection between the investigated
86	incident and the inmate whose protected health information and
87	records are sought; and
88	3. De-identified information could not reasonably be used.
89	Section 2. Section 944.151, Florida Statutes, is amended
89 90	Section 2. Section 944.151, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
90	to read:
90 91	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional
90 91 92	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature
90 91 92 93	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the
90 91 92 93 94	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the <u>safe operation and</u> security of the correctional institutions and
90 91 92 93 94 95	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the <u>safe operation and</u> security of the correctional institutions and facilities. The <u>safe operation and</u> security of the state's
90 91 92 93 94 95 96	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the <u>safe operation and</u> security of the correctional institutions and facilities. The <u>safe operation and</u> security of the state's correctional institutions and facilities <u>are</u> is critical to
90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the <u>safe operation and</u> security of the correctional institutions and facilities. The <u>safe operation and</u> security of the state's correctional institutions and facilities <u>are</u> is critical to ensure public safety <u>and the safety of department employees and</u>
90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98	to read: 944.151 <u>Safe operation and</u> security of correctional institutions and facilities.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the <u>safe operation and</u> security of the correctional institutions and facilities. The <u>safe operation and</u> security of the state's correctional institutions and facilities <u>are</u> is critical to ensure public safety <u>and the safety of department employees and</u> <u>offenders</u> , and to contain violent and chronic offenders until

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101	minimum:

102 Appoint appropriate department staff to a safety and (1)103 security review committee that which shall evaluate new safety 104 and security technology, review and discuss current issues 105 impacting state and private correctional institutions and 106 facilities, and review and discuss other issues as requested by 107 department management., at a minimum, be composed of: the inspector general, the statewide security coordinator, the 108 regional security coordinators, and three wardens and one 109 correctional officer. The security review committee shall: 110

(2) (a) Direct appropriate department staff to establish a 111 112 periodic schedule for the physical inspection of buildings and 113 structures of each state and private correctional institution 114 and facility to determine safety and security deficiencies. In 115 scheduling the inspections, priority shall be given to older 116 institutions and facilities; τ institutions and facilities that 117 house a large proportion of violent offenders; institutions and 118 facilities that have experienced a significant number of 119 inappropriate incidents of use of force on inmates, assaults on 120 employees, or inmate sexual abuse; - and institutions and 121 facilities that have experienced a significant number of escapes 122 or escape attempts in the past.

123 <u>(3)-(b)</u> <u>Direct appropriate department staff to</u> conduct or 124 cause to be conducted announced and unannounced comprehensive 125 security audits of all state and private correctional

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126 institutions and facilities. Priority shall be given to those 127 institutions and facilities that have experienced a significant 128 number of inappropriate incidents of use of force on inmates, 129 assaults on employees, or sexual abuse In conducting the 130 security audits, priority shall be given to older institutions, 131 institutions that house a large proportion of violent offenders, 132 and institutions that have experienced a history of escapes or 133 escape attempts. At a minimum, the audit must shall include an evaluation of the physical plant, landscaping, fencing, security 134 135 alarms and perimeter lighting, and confinement, arsenal, key and 136 lock, and entrance and exit inmate classification and staffing 137 policies. The evaluation of the physical plant policies must include the identification of blind spots or areas where staff 138 139 or inmates may be isolated and the deployment of video 140 monitoring systems and other appropriate monitoring technologies in such spots or areas. Each correctional institution and 141 142 facility shall be audited at least annually. The secretary shall 143 annually report the audit general survey findings annually to 144 the Governor and the Legislature. (c) Adopt and enforce minimum security standards and 145 146 policies that include, but are not limited to: 147 1. Random monitoring of outgoing telephone calls by 148 inmates. 2. Maintenance of current photographs of all inmates. 149 150 3. Daily inmate counts at varied intervals.

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151	4. Use of canine units, where appropriate.
152	5. Use of escape alarms and perimeter lighting.
153	6. Florida Crime Information Center/National Crime
154	Information Center capabilities.
155	7. Employment background investigations.
156	(d) Annually make written prioritized budget
157	recommendations to the secretary that identify critical security
158	deficiencies at major correctional institutions.
159	(4) (e) Direct appropriate department staff to investigate
160	and evaluate the usefulness and dependability of existing <u>safety</u>
161	and security technology at state and private correctional the
162	institutions and facilities, investigate and evaluate new
163	available safety and security technology, available and make
164	periodic written recommendations to the secretary on the
165	discontinuation or purchase of various safety and security
166	devices.
167	(5) (f) Direct appropriate department staff to contract, if
168	deemed necessary, with security personnel, consulting engineers,
169	architects, or other <u>safety and</u> security experts the <u>department</u>
170	committee deems necessary for safety and security audits and
171	security consultant services.
172	(6) (g) Direct appropriate department staff, in conjunction
173	with the regional offices, to establish a periodic schedule for
174	conducting announced and unannounced escape simulation drills.
175	(7) (2) Direct appropriate department staff to maintain and
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2017 Legislature

176	produce quarterly reports with accurate escape statistics. For
177	the purposes of these reports, the term "escape" includes all
178	possible types of escape, regardless of prosecution by the state
179	attorney, and <u>includes</u> including offenders who walk away from
180	nonsecure community facilities.
181	(8) (3) Direct appropriate department staff to adopt,
182	enforce, and annually evaluate the emergency escape response
183	procedures, which <u>must</u> shall at a minimum include the immediate
184	notification and inclusion of local and state law enforcement
185	through a mutual aid agreement.
186	(9) Direct appropriate department staff to review staffing
187	policies and practices as needed.
188	(10) Direct appropriate department staff to adopt and
189	enforce minimum safety and security standards and policies that
190	include, but are not limited to:
191	(a) Random monitoring of outgoing telephone calls by
192	inmates.
193	(b) Maintenance of current photographs of all inmates.
194	(c) Daily inmate counts at varied intervals.
195	(d) Use of canine units, where appropriate.
196	(e) Use of escape alarms and perimeter lighting.
197	
	(f) Use of the Florida Crime Information Center and
198	(f) Use of the Florida Crime Information Center and National Crime Information Center capabilities.
198 199	
	National Crime Information Center capabilities.

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the annual legislative budget request a prioritized summary of 201 critical safety and security deficiencies and repair and 202 203 renovation security needs. 204 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 944.17, Florida 205 Statutes, is amended to read: 206 944.17 Commitments and classification; transfers.-207 (5) The department shall also refuse to accept a person 208 into the state correctional system unless the following documents are presented in a completed form by the sheriff or 209 chief correctional officer, or a designated representative, to 210 the officer in charge of the reception process. The department 211 212 may, at its discretion, receive such documents electronically: The uniform commitment and judgment and sentence forms 213 (a) 214 as described in subsection (4). 215 The sheriff's certificate as described in s. 921.161. (b) A certified copy of the indictment or information 216 (C) 217 relating to the offense for which the person was convicted. A copy of the probable cause affidavit for each 218 (d) 219 offense identified in the current indictment or information. 220 A copy of the Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet and (e) 221 any attachments thereto prepared pursuant to Rule 3.701, Rule 222 3.702, or Rule 3.703, Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure, or any other rule pertaining to the preparation of felony 223 sentencing scoresheets. 224 225 (f) A copy of the restitution order or the reasons by the Page 9 of 21

2017 Legislature

226	count for not requiring restitution pursuant to $c = 775 - 0.00(1)$
	court for not requiring restitution pursuant to s. 775.089(1).
227	(g) The name and address of any victim, if available.
228	(h) A printout of a current criminal history record as
229	provided through an FCIC/NCIC printer.
230	(i) Any available health assessments including medical,
231	mental health, and dental, including laboratory or test
232	findings; custody classification; disciplinary and adjustment;
233	and substance abuse assessment and treatment information which
234	may have been developed during the period of incarceration
235	before prior to the transfer of the person to the department's
236	custody. Available information shall be transmitted on standard
237	forms developed by the department.
238	
239	In addition, the sheriff or other officer having such person in
240	charge shall also deliver with the foregoing documents any
241	available presentence investigation reports as described in s.
242	921.231 and any attached documents. After a prisoner is admitted
243	into the state correctional system, the department may request
244	such additional records relating to the prisoner as it considers
245	necessary from the clerk of the court, the Department of
246	Children and Families, or any other state or county agency for
247	the purpose of determining the prisoner's proper custody
248	classification, gain-time eligibility, or eligibility for early
249	release programs. An agency that receives such a request from
250	the department must provide the information requested. The

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251	department may, at its discretion, receive such information
252	electronically.
253	Section 4. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (4) of
254	section 944.275, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph
255	(f) is added to that subsection, to read:
256	944.275 Gain-time
257	(4)
258	(b) For each month in which an inmate works diligently,
259	participates in training, uses time constructively, or otherwise
260	engages in positive activities, the department may grant
261	incentive gain-time in accordance with this paragraph. The rate
262	of incentive gain-time in effect on the date the inmate
263	committed the offense which resulted in his or her incarceration
264	shall be the inmate's rate of eligibility to earn incentive
265	gain-time throughout the period of incarceration and shall not
266	be altered by a subsequent change in the severity level of the
267	offense for which the inmate was sentenced.
268	1. For sentences imposed for offenses committed prior to
269	January 1, 1994, up to 20 days of incentive gain-time may be
270	granted. If granted, such gain-time shall be credited and
271	applied monthly.
272	2. For sentences imposed for offenses committed on or
273	after January 1, 1994, and before October 1, 1995:
274	a. For offenses ranked in offense severity levels 1
275	through 7, under former s. 921.0012 or former s. 921.0013, up to
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276	25 days of incentive gain-time may be granted. If granted, such
277	gain-time shall be credited and applied monthly.
278	b. For offenses ranked in offense severity levels 8, 9,
279	and 10, under former s. 921.0012 or former s. 921.0013, up to 20
280	days of incentive gain-time may be granted. If granted, such
281	gain-time shall be credited and applied monthly.
282	3. For sentences imposed for offenses committed on or
283	after October 1, 1995, the department may grant up to 10 days
284	per month of incentive gain-time , except that no prisoner is
285	eligible to earn any type of gain-time in an amount that would
286	cause a sentence to expire, end, or terminate, or that would
287	result in a prisoner's release, prior to serving a minimum of 85
288	percent of the sentence imposed. For purposes of this
289	subparagraph, credits awarded by the court for time physically
290	incarcerated shall be credited toward satisfaction of 85 percent
291	of the sentence imposed. Except as provided by this section, a
292	prisoner shall not accumulate further gain-time awards at any
293	point when the tentative release date is the same as that date
294	at which the prisoner will have served 85 percent of the
295	sentence imposed. State prisoners sentenced to life imprisonment
296	shall be incarcerated for the rest of their natural lives,
297	unless granted pardon or clemency.
298	(d) Notwithstanding the monthly maximum awards of
299	incentive gain-time under subparagraphs (b)1., and 2., and 3.,
300	the education program manager shall recommend, and the
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301 Department of Corrections may grant, a one-time award of 60 302 additional days of incentive gain-time to an inmate who is 303 otherwise eligible and who successfully completes requirements 304 for and is, or has been during the current commitment, awarded a 305 high school equivalency diploma or vocational certificate. Under 306 no circumstances may an inmate receive more than 60 days for 307 educational attainment pursuant to this section. 308 (f) An inmate who is subject to subparagraph (b)3. is not 309 eligible to earn or receive gain-time under paragraph (a), 310 paragraph (b), paragraph (c), or paragraph (d) or any other type 311 of gain-time in an amount that would cause a sentence to expire, 312 end, or terminate, or that would result in a prisoner's release, 313 prior to serving a minimum of 85 percent of the sentence 314 imposed. For purposes of this paragraph, credits awarded by the 315 court for time physically incarcerated shall be credited toward 316 satisfaction of 85 percent of the sentence imposed. Except as 317 provided by this section, a prisoner may not accumulate further 318 gain-time awards at any point when the tentative release date is 319 the same as that date at which the prisoner will have served 85 320 percent of the sentence imposed. State prisoners sentenced to 321 life imprisonment shall be incarcerated for the rest of their 322 natural lives, unless granted pardon or clemency. 323 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 944.597, Florida 324 Statutes, is amended to read: 325 944.597 Transportation and return of prisoners by private

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FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ENROLLED CS/CS/HB 1201

2017 Legislature

326	transport company
327	(2) The department shall include, but <u>is</u> shall not be
328	limited to, the following requirements in any contract with any
329	transport company:
330	(a) That the transport company shall maintain adequate
331	liability coverage with respect to the transportation of
332	prisoners <u>.</u>
333	(b) That the transport company shall require its employees
334	to complete at least 100 hours of training before transporting
335	prisoners. The curriculum for such training must be approved by
336	the department and include instruction in:
337	1. Use of restraints;
338	2. Searches of prisoners;
339	3. Use of force, including use of appropriate weapons and
340	firearms;
341	4. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
342	5. Map reading; and
343	6. Defensive driving. personnel employed with the
344	transport company who are based in the state shall meet the
345	minimum standards in accordance with s. 943.13 and that
346	personnel employed with the transport company based outside of
347	Florida shall meet the minimum standards for a correctional
348	officer or law enforcement officer in the state where the
349	employee is based;
350	(c) That the transport company shall adhere to standards

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351	which provide for humane treatment of prisoners while in the
352	custody of the transport company <u>.</u> +
353	(d) That the transport company shall submit reports to the
354	department regarding incidents of escape, use of force, and
355	accidents involving prisoners in the custody of the transport
356	company.
357	Section 6. Section 945.36, Florida Statutes, is amended to
358	read:
359	945.36 Exemption from health testing regulations for law
360	enforcement personnel conducting drug tests on inmates and
361	releasees
362	(1) Any law enforcement officer, state or county probation
363	officer, or employee of the Department of Corrections, <u>or</u>
364	employee of a contracted community correctional center who is
365	certified by the Department of Corrections pursuant to
366	subsection (2), is exempt from part I of chapter 483, for the
367	limited purpose of administering a urine screen drug test to:
368	(a) Persons during incarceration;
369	(b) Persons released as a condition of probation for
370	either a felony or misdemeanor;
371	(c) Persons released as a condition of community control;
372	(d) Persons released as a condition of conditional
373	release;
374	(e) Persons released as a condition of parole;
375	(f) Persons released as a condition of provisional
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2017 Legislature

376 release;

377 (g) Persons released as a condition of pretrial release; 378 or

379

(h) Persons released as a condition of control release.

(2) The Department of Corrections shall develop a
procedure for certification of any law enforcement officer,
state or county probation officer, or employee of the Department
of Corrections, or employee of a contracted community
<u>correctional center</u> to perform a urine screen drug test on the
persons specified in subsection (1).

386 Section 7. Section 958.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to 387 read:

388 958.11 Designation of institutions and programs for 389 youthful offenders; assignment from youthful offender 390 institutions and programs.-

391 The department shall by rule designate separate (1)392 institutions and programs for youthful offenders and shall 393 employ and utilize personnel specially qualified by training and 394 experience to operate all such institutions and programs for 395 youthful offenders. Youthful offenders who are at least 14 years 396 of age but who have not yet reached the age of 18 19 years at 397 the time of reception shall be separated from youthful offenders who are 18 $\frac{19}{19}$ years of age or older, except that if the 398 population of the facilities designated for 14-year-old to 18-399 400 year-old youthful offenders exceeds 100 percent of lawful

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401 capacity, the department may assign 18-year-old youthful 402 offenders to the 19-24 age group facility. 403 (2) Youthful offender institutions and programs shall 404 contain only those youthful offenders sentenced as such by a 405 court or classified as such by the department, pursuant to the requirements of subsections (7) (4) and (9) (6), except that 406 407 under special circumstances select adult offenders may be 408 assigned to youthful offender institutions. All female youthful offenders of all ages may continue to be housed together at 409 those institutions designated by department rule until such time 410 411 as institutions for female youthful offenders are established or 412 adapted to allow for separation by age and to accommodate all 413 custody classifications.

(3) The department may assign a youthful offender <u>who is</u>
18 years of age or older to a facility in the state correctional
system which is not designated for the care, custody, control,
and supervision of youthful offenders or an age group only in
the following circumstances:

(a) If the youthful offender is convicted of a new crime
 420 that which is a felony under the laws of this state.

(b) If the youthful offender becomes such a serious
management or disciplinary problem resulting from serious
violations of the rules of the department that his or her
original assignment would be detrimental to the interests of the
program and to other inmates committed thereto.

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If the youthful offender needs medical treatment, 426 (C) 427 health services, or other specialized treatment otherwise not 428 available at the youthful offender facility. 429 If the department determines that the youthful (d) 430 offender should be transferred outside of the state correctional 431 system, as provided by law, for services not provided by the 432 department. 433 (e) If bed space is not available in a designated 434 community residential facility, the department may assign a youthful offender to a community residential facility, provided 435 436 that the youthful offender is separated from other offenders 437 insofar as is practical. The department may assign a youthful offender whose 438 (4) 439 age does not exceed 17 years to an adult facility for medical or 440 mental health reasons, for protective management, or for close management. The youthful offender shall be separated from 441 442 offenders who are 18 years of age or older. 443 (5) (f) If the youthful offender was originally assigned to 444 a facility designated for 14- to 17-year-old 14-year-old to 18- 445 year-old youthful offenders, but subsequently reaches the age of 446 18 19 years, the department may retain the youthful offender in a the facility designated for 18- to 22-year-old youthful 447 offenders if the department determines that it is in the best 448 interest of the youthful offender and the department. 449 450 If the youthful offender was originally assigned to a (6)

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451 <u>facility designated for 18- to 22-year-old youthful offenders,</u> 452 <u>but subsequently reaches the age of 23 years, the department may</u> 453 <u>retain the offender in the facility until the age of 25 if the</u> 454 <u>department determines that it is in the best interest of the</u> 455 <u>youthful offender and the department.</u>

456 (g) If the department determines that a youthful offender 457 originally assigned to a facility designated for the 19-24 age 458 group is mentally or physically vulnerable by such placement, 459 the department may reassign a youthful offender to a facility 460 designated for the 14-18 age group if the department determines 461 that a reassignment is necessary to protect the safety of the 462 youthful offender or the institution.

(h) If the department determines that a youthful offender originally assigned to a facility designated for the 14-18 age group is disruptive, incorrigible, or uncontrollable, the department may reassign a youthful offender to a facility designated for the 19-24 age group if the department determines that a reassignment would best serve the interests of the youthful offender and the department.

470 <u>(7)(4)</u> The department shall continuously screen all 471 institutions, facilities, and programs for any inmate who meets 472 the eligibility requirements for youthful offender designation 473 specified in s. 958.04(1)(a) and (c) whose age does not exceed 474 24 years and whose total length of sentence does not exceed 10 475 years, and the department may classify and assign as a youthful

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476 offender any inmate who meets the criteria of this subsection. 477 The department shall coordinate all youthful (8)(5) 478 offender assignments or transfers and shall review and maintain 479 access to full and complete documentation and substantiation of 480 all such assignments or transfers of youthful offenders to or 481 from facilities in the state correctional system which are not 482 designated for their care, custody, and control, except 483 assignments or transfers made pursuant to paragraph (3)(c). (9) (9) (6) The department may assign to a youthful offender 484 facility any inmate, except a capital or life felon, whose age 485 486 does not exceed 19 years but who does not otherwise meet the 487 criteria of this section, if the department determines that such 488 inmate's mental or physical vulnerability would substantially or 489 materially jeopardize his or her safety in a nonyouthful 490 offender facility. Assignments made under this subsection shall 491 be included in the department's annual report. 492 Section 8. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 921.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 493 494 921.002 The Criminal Punishment Code.-The Criminal 495 Punishment Code shall apply to all felony offenses, except 496 capital felonies, committed on or after October 1, 1998. 497 The provision of criminal penalties and of limitations (1)upon the application of such penalties is a matter of 498 499 predominantly substantive law and, as such, is a matter properly 500 addressed by the Legislature. The Legislature, in the exercise Page 20 of 21

2017 Legislature

of its authority and responsibility to establish sentencing criteria, to provide for the imposition of criminal penalties, and to make the best use of state prisons so that violent criminal offenders are appropriately incarcerated, has determined that it is in the best interest of the state to develop, implement, and revise a sentencing policy. The Criminal Punishment Code embodies the principles that:

508 The sentence imposed by the sentencing judge reflects (e) the length of actual time to be served, shortened only by the 509 application of incentive and meritorious gain-time as provided 510 511 by law, and may not be shortened if the defendant would 512 consequently serve less than 85 percent of his or her term of 513 imprisonment as provided in s. 944.275(4) 944.275(4)(b)3. The 514 provisions of chapter 947, relating to parole, shall not apply 515 to persons sentenced under the Criminal Punishment Code.

516

Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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