Florida Senate - 2005

By Senator Lynn

```
7-135-05
 1
                        A bill to be entitled
 2
           An act relating to the sentencing of youthful
           offenders; amending s. 958.04, F.S.;
 3
           prohibiting the court from sentencing a person
 4
 5
           as a youthful offender if the person is older
 б
           than a specified age and found guilty of
 7
           committing sexual battery, lewd or indecent
 8
           exposure, or child abuse or neglect; reenacting
           ss. 958.03(5), 958.045(8)(a), 958.11(4), and
 9
10
           985.233(4)(c), F.S., relating to the definition
           of a youthful offender, institutions and
11
12
           programs for youthful offenders, and sentencing
13
           alternatives, to incorporate the amendments to
           s. 958.04, F.S., in references thereto;
14
           providing an effective date.
15
16
17
   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
18
           Section 1. Section 958.04, Florida Statutes, is
19
    amended to read:
20
21
           958.04 Judicial disposition of youthful offenders .--
22
           (1) The court may sentence as a youthful offender any
23
   person who:
           (a) Who Is at least 18 years of age or who has been
2.4
   transferred for prosecution to the criminal division of the
25
    circuit court pursuant to chapter 985;
26
27
           (b) Who Is found quilty of or who has tendered, and
2.8
   the court has accepted, a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to
   a crime that which is, under the laws of this state, a felony
29
```

30 if such crime was committed before the defendant's 21st

31 birthday; and

1

1 (c) Who Has not previously been classified as a 2 youthful offender under the provisions of this act.; however, 3 no person who has been found guilty of a capital or life 4 felony may be sentenced as a youthful offender under this act. 5 (2) The court may not sentence as a youthful offender б any person who has been found quilty of: 7 (a) A capital or life felony; or 8 (b) A sexual offense proscribed in chapter 794, chapter 800, or chapter 827 and who was 18 years of age or 9 10 older at the time of that offense. (3)(2) In lieu of other criminal penalties authorized 11 12 by law and notwithstanding any imposition of consecutive 13 sentences, the court shall dispose of the criminal case as follows: 14 (a) The court may place a youthful offender under 15 supervision on probation or in a community control program, 16 17 with or without an adjudication of guilt, under such 18 conditions as the court may lawfully impose for a period of not more than 6 years. Such period of supervision may shall 19 not exceed the maximum sentence for the offense for which the 20 21 youthful offender was found guilty. 22 (b) The court may impose a period of incarceration as 23 a condition of probation or community control, which period of incarceration shall be served in either a county facility, a 2.4 department probation and restitution center, or a community 25 26 residential facility that which is owned and operated by any 27 public or private entity providing such services. A No 2.8 youthful offender may not be required to serve a period of incarceration in a community correctional center as defined in 29 s. 944.026. Admission to a department facility or center is 30 shall be contingent upon the availability of bed space and the 31

2

Florida Senate - 2005 7-135-05 SB 170

1 court shall take into account the purpose and function of such facility or center. Placement in such a facility or center 2 may shall not exceed 364 days. 3 4 (c) The court may impose a split sentence whereby the youthful offender is to be placed on probation or community 5 6 control upon completion of any specified period of 7 incarceration; however, if the incarceration period is to be served in a department facility other than a probation and 8 restitution center or community residential facility, such 9 period shall be for not less than 1 year or more than 4 years. 10 The period of probation or community control shall commence 11 12 immediately upon the release of the youthful offender from 13 incarceration. The period of incarceration imposed or served and the period of probation or community control, when added 14 together, <u>may</u> shall not exceed 6 years. 15 16 (d) The court may commit the youthful offender to the 17 custody of the department for a period of not more than 6 18 years; however, provided that any such commitment may shall not exceed the maximum sentence for the offense for which the 19 youthful offender has been convicted. Successful 20 21 participation in the youthful offender program by an offender 22 who is sentenced as a youthful offender by the court under 23 pursuant to this section, or is classified as such by the department, may result in a recommendation to the court- by 2.4 the department τ for a modification or early termination of 25 26 probation, community control, or the sentence at any time 27 before prior to the scheduled expiration of such term. When a 2.8 modification of the sentence results in the reduction of a term of incarceration, the court may impose a term of 29 30 probation or community control which, when added to the term 31

3

1 of incarceration, may shall not exceed the original sentence 2 imposed. 3 (4)(3) The provisions of This section may shall not be used to impose a greater sentence than the permissible 4 sentence range as established by the Criminal Punishment Code 5 6 under pursuant to chapter 921 unless reasons are explained in 7 writing by the trial court judge which reasonably justify 8 departure. A sentence imposed outside of the code is subject to appeal <u>under</u> pursuant to s. 924.06 or s. 924.07. 9 10 (5) (4) Due to severe prison overcrowding, the Legislature declares the construction of a basic training 11 12 program facility is necessary to aid in alleviating an 13 emergency situation. (6)(5) The department shall provide a special training 14 program for staff selected for the basic training program. 15 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the 16 17 amendments made by this act to section 958.04, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 18 958.03, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 19 20 958.03 Definitions.--As used in this act: 21 (5) "Youthful offender" means any person who is 22 sentenced as such by the court or is classified as such by the 23 department pursuant to s. 958.04. Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the 2.4 amendments made by this act to section 958.04, Florida 25 26 Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection 27 (8) of section 958.045, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to 2.8 read: 958.045 Youthful offender basic training program.--29 30 (8)(a) The Assistant Secretary for Youthful Offenders shall continuously screen all institutions, facilities, and 31

4

1 programs for any inmate who meets the eligibility requirements 2 for youthful offender designation specified in s. 958.04, whose age does not exceed 24 years. The department may 3 classify and assign as a youthful offender any inmate who 4 meets the criteria of s. 958.04. 5 6 Section 4. For the purpose of incorporating the 7 amendments made by this act to section 958.04, Florida 8 Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 958.11, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 9 10 958.11 Designation of institutions and programs for youthful offenders; assignment from youthful offender 11 12 institutions and programs. --13 (4) The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Youthful Offenders shall continuously screen all institutions, 14 facilities, and programs for any inmate who meets the 15 eligibility requirements for youthful offender designation 16 17 specified in s. 958.04(1)(a) and (c) whose age does not exceed 24 years and whose total length of sentence does not exceed 10 18 years, and the department may classify and assign as a 19 youthful offender any inmate who meets the criteria of this 20 21 subsection. 22 Section 5. For the purpose of incorporating the 23 amendments made by this act to section 958.04, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection 2.4 (4) of section 985.233, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to 25 read: 26 27 985.233 Sentencing powers; procedures; alternatives 2.8 for juveniles prosecuted as adults. --(4) SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES.--29 30 (c) Imposition of adult sanctions upon failure of juvenile sanctions.--If a child proves not to be suitable to a 31 5

1 commitment program, in a juvenile probation program, or 2 treatment program under the provisions of paragraph (b), the department shall provide the sentencing court with a written 3 report outlining the basis for its objections to the juvenile 4 sanction and shall simultaneously provide a copy of the report 5 6 to the state attorney and the defense counsel. The department 7 shall schedule a hearing within 30 days. Upon hearing, the 8 court may revoke the previous adjudication, impose an adjudication of guilt, and impose any sentence which it may 9 lawfully impose, giving credit for all time spent by the child 10 in the department. The court may also classify the child as a 11 12 youthful offender pursuant to s. 958.04, if appropriate. For 13 purposes of this paragraph, a child may be found not suitable to a commitment program, community control program, or 14 treatment program under the provisions of paragraph (b) if the 15 child commits a new violation of law while under juvenile 16 17 sanctions, if the child commits any other violation of the conditions of juvenile sanctions, or if the child's actions 18 are otherwise determined by the court to demonstrate a failure 19 of juvenile sanctions. 20 21 22 It is the intent of the Legislature that the criteria and 23 quidelines in this subsection are mandatory and that a determination of disposition under this subsection is subject 2.4 to the right of the child to appellate review under s. 25 985.234. 26 27 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005. 2.8 29 30 31

6

Florida Senate - 2005 7-135-05

SB	170

1	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
2	SENATE SUMMARY
3	Prohibits sentencing a person found guilty of a sexual offense who is 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense as a youthful offender.
4	the offense as a youthful offender.
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14 15	
15 16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	