A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to behavioral health care services; 3 amending s. 394.453, F.S.; revising legislative intent 4 and providing legislative findings for the Florida 5 Mental Health Act; amending ss. 394.66 and 397.305, 6 F.S.; revising legislative intent with respect to 7 mental health and substance abuse treatment services; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; requiring behavioral 8 9 health managing entities to coordinate service 10 delivery plans with their respective counties or circuits; providing responsibilities of county 11 12 governments for designation of receiving facilities 13 for the examination and assessment of persons with 14 mental health or substance use disorders; authorizing 15 the Department of Children and Families to monitor and enforce compliance with chapter 394, F.S., relating to 16 mental health; requiring managing entities to provide 17 certain technical assistance; requiring managing 18 19 entities to develop and implement transportation 20 plans; requiring local law enforcement agencies, local 21 governments, and certain providers to review and 2.2 approve transportation plans; providing departmental authority for final approval of such plans; amending 23 s. 397.675, F.S.; revising criteria for involuntary 24 25 admission for assessment, stabilization, and treatment 26 of persons with substance use or mental health

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to read:

disorders; amending s. 397.6793, F.S.; specifying professionals authorized to execute a certificate for emergency admission; providing criteria for emergency admission; amending s. 397.681, F.S.; prohibiting a court from charging a fee for the filing of a petition for involuntary assessment and stabilization; amending s. 397.6811, F.S.; revising who may file a petition for involuntary assessment and stabilization; amending s. 397.6818, F.S.; providing a time limitation on a court order authorizing involuntary assessment and stabilization; amending ss. 397.697, 397.6971 and 397.6977, F.S.; revising the maximum duration of court-ordered involuntary treatment and conforming provisions; amending s. 397.6955, F.S.; revising requirements for scheduling a hearing on a petition for involuntary treatment; requiring the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute within the University of South Florida to provide certain information to the department on a monthly basis; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: Section 394.453, Florida Statutes, is amended

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394.453 Legislative findings and intent.-

- (1) The Legislature finds that mental health and substance use disorders are diseases of the brain; are complex medical conditions that encompass biological, genetic, psychological, cultural, and social factors; and are subspecialties within the field of medical practice. The Legislature recognizes that behavioral health disorders may temporarily or permanently affect a person's ability to reason, exercise good judgment, recognize the need for services, or sufficiently provide selfcare; thus responsibility for such a person's care must be delegated to a third party and may be vested in an authorized, licensed, qualified health professional who can provide behavioral health services.
  - (2) It is the intent of the Legislature:

- (a) To authorize licensed, qualified health professionals to exercise the full authority of their respective scopes of practice in the performance of professional functions necessary to carry out the intent of this part.
- (b) To ensure that local systems of acute care services use a common protocol and apply consistent practice standards that provide for nondiscriminatory and equitable access to the level and duration of care based on the specific needs and preferences of the persons served.
- (c) That services provided to persons in this state use the coordination-of-care principles characteristic of recovery-oriented services and include social support services, such as housing support, life skills and vocational training, and

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employment assistance, necessary for persons with mental health and substance use disorders to live successfully in their communities.

- (d) To authorize and direct the Department of Children and Families to evaluate, research, plan, and recommend to the Governor and the Legislature programs designed to reduce the occurrence, severity, duration, and disabling aspects of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders.
- (e) That state policy and funding decisions be driven by data that is representative of the populations served and the effectiveness of services provided.
- <u>(f)</u> It is the intent of the Legislature That treatment programs for such disorders shall include, but not be limited to, comprehensive health, social, educational, and rehabilitative services to persons requiring intensive short-term and continued treatment in order to encourage them to assume responsibility for their treatment and recovery. It is intended that:
- $\underline{1.}$  Such persons be provided with emergency service and temporary detention for evaluation when required;
- 2. Such persons that they be admitted to treatment facilities on a voluntary basis when extended or continuing care is needed and unavailable in the community;
- $\underline{3.}$  that Involuntary placement be provided only when expert evaluation determines that it is necessary;
  - 4. that Any involuntary treatment or examination be

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accomplished in a setting  $\underline{\text{that}}$  which is clinically appropriate and most likely to facilitate the person's return to the community as soon as possible; and

- 5. that Individual dignity and human rights be guaranteed to all persons who are admitted to mental health facilities or who are being held under s. 394.463. It is the further intent of the Legislature that the least restrictive means of intervention be employed based on the individual needs of each person, within the scope of available services.
- (3) It is the policy of this state that the use of restraint and seclusion on clients is justified only as an emergency safety measure to be used in response to imminent danger to the client or others. It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature to achieve an ongoing reduction in the use of restraint and seclusion in programs and facilities serving persons with mental illness.
- Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 394.66, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 394.66 Legislative intent with respect to substance abuse and mental health services.—It is the intent of the Legislature to:
- disorders are diseases of the brain; are complex medical conditions that encompass biological, genetic, psychological, cultural, and social factors; and are subspecialties within the field of medical practice. The Legislature recognizes that

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behavioral health disorders may temporarily or permanently affect a person's ability to reason, exercise good judgment, recognize the need for services, or sufficiently provide self-care, thus responsibility for such a person's care must be delegated to a third party and may be vested in an authorized, licensed, qualified health professional who can provide behavioral health services mental illness and substance abuse impairment are diseases that are responsive to medical and psychological interventions and management that integrate treatment, rehabilitative, and support services to achieve recovery.

Section 3. Subsections (4) through (12) of section 394.9082, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) though (14), respectively, and new subsections (4) and (5) are added to that section to read:

394.9082 Behavioral health managing entities.-

- (4) COMMUNITY PLANNING.—Each managing entity shall develop a plan with each county or circuit in its geographic area to establish and maintain a behavioral health service system that has sufficient capacity to ensure that all persons with mental health or substance use disorders who are subject to involuntary admission under this chapter receive prompt assessment of the need for evaluation and treatment. At a minimum, the plan must include the following components:
- (a) Each county shall work with managing entities, the department, community-based treatment providers, private

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providers, local hospitals and health departments, law enforcement agencies, the courts, and other local government agencies to designate a receiving facility that shall be used by law enforcement officers, but may be used by other authorized persons, for voluntary and involuntary assessments or examinations.

- 1. A county may have more than one facility or may use or share the resources of adjacent counties.
- 2. The department shall suspend or withdraw such designation for failure to comply with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter. Unless designated by the department, a facility may not hold or treat involuntary patients under this chapter.
- (b) A managing entity shall coordinate the development of a local plan that:
  - 1. Includes the county or circuit.

- 2. Establishes the specifications and minimum standards for access to care available in each community and specifies the roles, processes, and responsibilities of community intervention programs for the diversion of persons from acute care placements.
- 3. Specifies the method by which local hospitals, ambulatory centers, designated receiving facilities, and acute care inpatient and detoxification providers will coordinate activities to assess, examine, triage, intake, and process persons presented on an involuntary basis.

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183 <u>4. Includes a local transportation plan as provided in s.</u>
184 394.462.

- 5. Provides an option to procure nonmedical transportation contracts for the transportation of patients between facilities.
- (c) A managing entity shall provide technical assistance to counties or circuits for the development, receipt, and approval of such plans and incorporate the community resources designated in such plans when conducting the needs assessment and coordinating the resources within its assigned region.
  - (5) TRANSPORTATION PLANS.—

- (a) Each managing entity shall develop, in consultation with local law enforcement agencies, county officials, and local acute care providers, a transportation plan for each county or circuit within its assigned region. At a minimum, the plan must address the following:
- 1. The designated public or private substance abuse receiving facility or residential detoxification facility to be used by local law enforcement agencies as their primary receiving facility.
- 2. The method of transporting a person after a law enforcement officer has relinquished physical custody of the person at a designated public or private substance abuse receiving facility or residential detoxification facility.
- 3. Provide for consumer choice with respect to a receiving facility or other designated facility, or other acute care service provider capable of meeting the person's needs, within

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reasonable parameters of funding, geography, and safety.

- 4. Specify responsibility for and the means by which transportation to and between facilities of persons in need of behavioral health services will be implemented to support involuntary assessments or examinations, provision of emergency services, acute care placements, and attendance at involuntary court proceedings and resulting commitments.
- (b) The transportation plan shall be initiated by the local managing entity and must be reviewed and approved by local law enforcement agencies, county commissioners, and designated acute care providers in the county or circuit before submission to the managing entity. The department has final review and approval authority for the transportation plan.
- Section 4. Section 397.305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 397.305 Legislative findings, intent, and purpose.-
- (1) The Legislature finds that mental health and substance use disorders are diseases of the brain; are complex medical conditions that encompass biological, genetic, psychological, cultural, and social factors; and are subspecialties within the field of medical practice. The Legislature recognizes that behavioral health disorders may temporarily or permanently affect a person's ability to reason, exercise good judgment, recognize the need for services, or sufficiently provide self-care, thus responsibility for such a person's care must be delegated to a third party and may be vested in an authorized,

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licensed, qualified health professional who can provide behavioral health services.

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(2) (1) Substance abuse is a major health problem that affects multiple service systems and leads to such profoundly disturbing consequences as serious impairment, chronic addiction, criminal behavior, vehicular casualties, spiraling health care costs, AIDS, and business losses, and significantly affects the culture, socialization, and learning ability of children within our schools and educational systems. Substance abuse impairment is a disease which affects the whole family and the whole society and requires a system of care that includes prevention, intervention, clinical treatment, and recovery support services that support and strengthen the family unit. Further, it is the intent of the Legislature to require the collaboration of state agencies, service systems, and program offices to achieve the goals of this chapter and address the needs of the public; to establish a comprehensive system of care for substance abuse; and to reduce duplicative requirements across state agencies. This chapter is designed to provide for substance abuse services.

- (3)(2) It is the goal of the Legislature to discourage substance abuse by promoting healthy lifestyles; healthy families; and drug-free schools, workplaces, and communities.
- (4)(3) It is the purpose of this chapter to provide for a comprehensive continuum of accessible and quality substance abuse prevention, intervention, clinical treatment, and recovery

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support services in the least restrictive environment which promotes long-term recovery while protecting and respecting the rights of individuals, primarily through community-based private not-for-profit providers working with local governmental programs involving a wide range of agencies from both the public and private sectors.

- (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to authorize licensed, qualified health professionals to exercise the full authority of their respective scopes of practice in the performance of professional functions necessary to carry out the intent of this chapter.
- (6) It is the intent of the Legislature that state policy and funding decisions be driven by data that is representative of the populations served and the effectiveness of services provided.
- (7) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish expectations that services provided to persons in this state use the coordination-of-care principles characteristic of recovery-oriented services and include social support services, such as housing support, life skills and vocational training, and employment assistance, necessary for persons with mental health and substance use disorders to live successfully in their communities.
- (8) (4) It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure within available resources a full system of care for substance abuse services based on identified needs, delivered without

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discrimination and with adequate provision for specialized needs.

- (9) (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish services for individuals with co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders.
- (10)(6) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide an alternative to criminal imprisonment for substance abuse impaired adults and juvenile offenders by encouraging the referral of such offenders to service providers not generally available within the juvenile justice and correctional systems, instead of or in addition to criminal penalties.
- (11)(7) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide, within the limits of appropriations and safe management of the juvenile justice and correctional systems, substance abuse services to substance abuse impaired offenders who are placed by the Department of Juvenile Justice or who are incarcerated within the Department of Corrections, in order to better enable these offenders or inmates to adjust to the conditions of society presented to them when their terms of placement or incarceration end.
- (12) (8) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide for assisting substance abuse impaired persons primarily through health and other rehabilitative services in order to relieve the police, courts, correctional institutions, and other criminal justice agencies of a burden that interferes with their ability to protect people, apprehend offenders, and maintain safe and

313 orderly communities.

(13) (9) It is the intent of the Legislature that the freedom of religion of all citizens shall be inviolate. Nothing in This act does not shall give any governmental entity jurisdiction to regulate religious, spiritual, or ecclesiastical services.

Section 5. Section 397.675, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

397.675 Criteria for involuntary admissions, including protective custody, emergency admission, and other involuntary assessment, involuntary treatment, and alternative involuntary assessment for minors, for purposes of assessment and stabilization, and for involuntary treatment.—A person meets the criteria for involuntary admission if there is good faith reason to believe the person has a substance use or co-occurring mental health disorder and, because of this condition, has refused or is unable to determine whether examination is necessary. The refusal of services is insufficient evidence of an inability to determine whether an examination is necessary unless, without care or treatment is substance abuse impaired and, because of such impairment:

- (1) The person is likely to neglect or refuse care for himself or herself to the extent that the neglect or refusal poses a real and present threat of substantial harm to his or her well-being;
  - (2) The person is at risk of the deterioration of his or

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her physical or mental health and this condition may not be
avoided despite assistance from willing family members, friends,
or other services; or

- (3) There is a substantial likelihood that the person will cause serious bodily harm to himself or herself or others, as shown by the person's recent behavior. Has lost the power of self-control with respect to substance use; and either
- (2) (a) Has inflicted, or threatened or attempted to inflict, or unless admitted is likely to inflict, physical harm on himself or herself or another; or
- (b) Is in need of substance abuse services and, by reason of substance abuse impairment, his or her judgment has been so impaired that the person is incapable of appreciating his or her need for such services and of making a rational decision in regard thereto; however, mere refusal to receive such services does not constitute evidence of lack of judgment with respect to his or her need for such services.
- Section 6. Section 397.6793, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 397.6793 <u>Professional</u> <del>Physician's</del> certificate for emergency admission.—
- (1) A physician, clinical psychologist, physician's assistant working under the scope of practice of the supervising physician, psychiatric nurse, advanced registered nurse practitioner, licensed mental health counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, master's level certified

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addiction professional for substance abuse services, or licensed clinical social worker may execute a certificate stating that he or she has examined a person within the preceding 5 days and finds that the person appears to meet the criteria for emergency admission and stating the observations upon which that conclusion is based. The professional physician's certificate must include the name of the person to be admitted, the relationship between the person and the professional executing the certificate physician, the relationship between the applicant and the professional executing the certificate physician, and any relationship between the professional executing the certificate physician and the licensed service provider, and a statement that the person has been examined and assessed within 5 days of the application date, and must include factual allegations with respect to the need for emergency admission, including:

- (a) The reason for the physician's belief that the person is substance abuse impaired; and
- (b) The reason for the physician's belief that because of such impairment the person has lost the power of self-control with respect to substance abuse; and either
- (c) 1. The reason for the belief that, without care or treatment:
- 1. The person is likely to neglect or refuse to care for himself or herself to the extent that the neglect or refusal poses a real and present threat of substantial harm to his or

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## her well-being;

- 2. The person is at risk of the deterioration of his or her physical or mental health and that this condition may not be avoided despite assistance from willing family members, friends, or other services; or
- 3. There is a substantial likelihood that the person will cause serious bodily harm to himself or herself or others, as shown by the person's recent behavior. the physician believes that the person has inflicted or is likely to inflict physical harm on himself or herself or others unless admitted; or
- 2. The reason the physician believes that the person's refusal to voluntarily receive care is based on judgment so impaired by reason of substance abuse that the person is incapable of appreciating his or her need for care and of making a rational decision regarding his or her need for care.
- (2) The <u>professional</u> <u>physician's</u> certificate must recommend the least restrictive type of service that is appropriate for the person. The certificate must be signed by the <u>professional</u> <u>physician</u>. <u>If other less restrictive means are not available, such as voluntary appearance for outpatient evaluation, a law enforcement officer shall take the person named in the certificate into custody and deliver him or her to the nearest facility selected by the county for emergency admission.</u>
- (3) A signed copy of the <u>professional</u> physician's certificate shall accompany the person, and shall be made a part

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of the person's clinical record, together with a signed copy of the application. The application and <u>professional</u> <u>physician's</u> certificate authorize the involuntary admission of the person pursuant to, and subject to the provisions of <u>,</u> ss. 397.679-397.6797.

- (4) The <u>professional</u> physician's certificate must indicate whether the person requires transportation assistance for delivery for emergency admission and specify, pursuant to s. 397.6795, the type of transportation assistance necessary.
- Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 397.681, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 397.681 Involuntary petitions; general provisions; court jurisdiction and right to counsel.—
- (1) JURISDICTION.—The courts have jurisdiction of involuntary assessment and stabilization petitions and involuntary treatment petitions for substance abuse impaired persons, and such petitions must be filed with the clerk of the court in the county where the person is located. The court may not charge a fee for the filing of a petition under this section. The chief judge may appoint a general or special magistrate to preside over all or part of the proceedings. The alleged impaired person is named as the respondent.
- Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 397.6811, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 397.6811 Involuntary assessment and stabilization.—A person determined by the court to appear to meet the criteria

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for involuntary admission under s. 397.675 may be admitted for a period of 5 days to a hospital or to a licensed detoxification facility or addictions receiving facility, for involuntary assessment and stabilization or to a less restrictive component of a licensed service provider for assessment only upon entry of a court order or upon receipt by the licensed service provider of a petition. Involuntary assessment and stabilization may be initiated by the submission of a petition to the court.

(1) If the person upon whose behalf the petition is being filed is an adult, a petition for involuntary assessment and stabilization may be filed by the respondent's spouse or guardian, any relative, a private practitioner, the director of a licensed service provider or the director's designee, or any adult willing to provide testimony that he or she has personally observed the actions of that person and believes that person to be a threat to himself or herself or others three adults who have personal knowledge of the respondent's substance abuse impairment.

Section 9. Subsection (4) is added to section 397.6818, Florida Statutes, to read:

397.6818 Court determination.—At the hearing initiated in accordance with s. 397.6811(1), the court shall hear all relevant testimony. The respondent must be present unless the court has reason to believe that his or her presence is likely to be injurious to him or her, in which event the court shall appoint a guardian advocate to represent the respondent. The

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respondent has the right to examination by a court-appointed qualified professional. After hearing all the evidence, the court shall determine whether there is a reasonable basis to believe the respondent meets the involuntary admission criteria of s. 397.675.

- (4) The order is valid only until executed or, if not executed, for the period specified in the order. If no time limit is specified in the order, the order is valid for 7 days after the date the order is signed.
- Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 397.697, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 397.697 Court determination; effect of court order for involuntary substance abuse treatment.—
- (1) When the court finds that the conditions for involuntary substance abuse treatment have been proved by clear and convincing evidence, it may order the respondent to undergo involuntary treatment by a licensed service provider for a period not to exceed 90 60 days. If the court finds it necessary, it may direct the sheriff to take the respondent into custody and deliver him or her to the licensed service provider specified in the court order, or to the nearest appropriate licensed service provider, for involuntary treatment. When the conditions justifying involuntary treatment no longer exist, the individual must be released as provided in s. 397.6971. When the conditions justifying involuntary treatment are expected to exist after 90 60 days of treatment, a renewal of the

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involuntary treatment order may be requested pursuant to s. 397.6975 before prior to the end of the 90-day 60-day period.

Section 11. Section 397.6971, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

397.6971 Early release from involuntary substance abuse treatment.—

- (1) At any time <u>before</u> prior to the end of the <u>90-day</u> 60-day involuntary treatment period, or <u>before</u> prior to the end of any extension granted pursuant to s. 397.6975, an individual admitted for involuntary treatment may be determined eligible for discharge to the most appropriate referral or disposition for the individual when:
- (a) The individual no longer meets the criteria <u>specified</u> in s. 397.675 for involuntary admission and has given his or her informed consent to be transferred to voluntary treatment status;
- (b) If the individual was admitted on the grounds of likelihood of infliction of physical harm upon himself or herself or others, such likelihood no longer exists; or
- (c) If the individual was admitted on the grounds of need for assessment and stabilization or treatment, accompanied by inability to make a determination respecting such need, either:
  - 1. Such inability no longer exists; or
- 2. It is evident that further treatment will not bring about further significant improvements in the individual's condition;

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(d) The individual is no longer in need of services; or

- (e) The director of the service provider determines that the individual is beyond the safe management capabilities of the provider.
- (2) Whenever a qualified professional determines that an individual admitted for involuntary treatment is ready for early release for any of the reasons listed in subsection (1), the service provider shall immediately discharge the individual, and must notify all persons specified by the court in the original treatment order.

Section 12. Section 397.6977, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

397.6977 Disposition of individual upon completion of involuntary substance abuse treatment.—At the conclusion of the 90-day 60-day period of court-ordered involuntary treatment, the individual is automatically discharged unless a motion for renewal of the involuntary treatment order has been filed with the court pursuant to s. 397.6975.

Section 13. Section 397.6955, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

397.6955 Duties of court upon filing of petition for involuntary treatment.—Upon the filing of a petition for the involuntary treatment of a substance abuse impaired person with the clerk of the court, the court shall immediately determine whether the respondent is represented by an attorney or whether the appointment of counsel for the respondent is appropriate.

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The court shall schedule a hearing to be held on the petition within 5 10 days, unless a continuance is granted. A copy of the petition and notice of the hearing must be provided to the respondent; the respondent's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, in the case of a minor; the respondent's attorney, if known; the petitioner; the respondent's spouse or guardian, if applicable; and such other persons as the court may direct, and have such petition and order personally delivered to the respondent if he or she is a minor. The court shall also issue a summons to the person whose admission is sought.

Section 14. In order to maximize efficiency, avoid duplication, and provide cost savings, the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute within the University of South Florida shall provide monthly to the Department of Children and Families copies of each of the following:

- (1) Ex parte orders for involuntary examination.
- (2) Professional certificates for initiating involuntary examination.
  - (3) Law enforcement reports on involuntary examination.
  - (4) Involuntary outpatient placement orders.
- (5) Involuntary inpatient placement orders.

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568 Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

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