

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
OTHER	<u>    </u>	

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Children, Families &  
2 Seniors Subcommittee

3 Representative Brodeur offered the following:

4  
5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 92.55, Florida  
8 Statutes, is amended to read:

9 92.55 Judicial or other proceedings involving victim or  
10 witness under the age of 18, a person who has an intellectual  
11 disability, or a sexual offense victim or witness; special  
12 protections; use of ~~registered service or~~ therapy animals or  
13 facility dogs.-

14 (5) The court may set any other conditions it finds just  
15 and appropriate when taking the testimony of a ~~child victim or~~  
16 ~~witness or a sexual offense victim or witness~~ victim or witness

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17 under the age of 18, a person who has an intellectual  
18 disability, or a sexual offense victim or witness, including the  
19 use of a ~~service or~~ therapy animal or facility dog ~~that has been~~  
20 ~~evaluated and registered according to national standards,~~ in any  
21 proceeding involving a sexual offense or child abuse,  
22 abandonment, or neglect.

23 (a) When deciding whether to permit a victim or witness  
24 under the age of 18, a person who has an intellectual  
25 disability, or a sexual offense victim or witness ~~child victim~~  
26 ~~or witness or sexual offense victim or witness~~ to testify with  
27 the assistance of a ~~registered service or~~ therapy animal or  
28 facility dog, the court shall consider the age of the child  
29 victim or witness, the age of the sexual offense victim or  
30 witness at the time the sexual offense occurred, the interests  
31 of the child victim or witness or sexual offense victim or  
32 witness, the rights of the parties to the litigation, and any  
33 other relevant factor that would facilitate the testimony by the  
34 victim or witness under the age of 18, person who has an  
35 intellectual disability, or sexual offense victim or witness  
36 ~~child victim or witness or sexual offense victim or witness.~~

37 (b) For purposes of this subsection the term:

38 1. "Facility dog" means a dog that has been trained,  
39 evaluated, and certified as a facility dog pursuant to industry  
40 standards and provides unobtrusive emotional support to children  
41 and adults in facility settings.

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42        2. "Therapy animal" means an animal that has been trained,  
43 evaluated, and certified as a therapy animal pursuant to  
44 industry standards by an organization that certifies animals as  
45 appropriate to provide animal therapy.

46        Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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**T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T**

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Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

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An act relating to proceedings involving minors or certain other  
52 persons; amending s. 92.55, F.S.; providing that judges may  
53 allow the use of certain therapy animals or facility dogs in  
54 proceedings involving abuse, abandonment, or neglect; allowing  
55 such animals to be used when taking the testimony of certain  
56 other persons; providing an effective date.