

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

|                       |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| ADOPTED               | _____ | (Y/N) |
| ADOPTED AS AMENDED    | _____ | (Y/N) |
| ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION | _____ | (Y/N) |
| FAILED TO ADOPT       | _____ | (Y/N) |
| WITHDRAWN             | _____ | (Y/N) |
| OTHER                 |       |       |

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Civil Justice & Claims  
 2 Subcommittee

3 Representative White offered the following:

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

6 Remove lines 37-143 and insert:

7 (b) "Qualified association" means an association that  
 8 establishes, publishes, and requires compliance with minimum  
 9 best practice standards for operating a program that assists  
 10 parents in providing temporary respite care for a child by a  
 11 volunteer respite family.

12 (c) "Qualified nonprofit organization" or "organization"  
 13 means a private Florida nonprofit organization that assists  
 14 parents by providing temporary respite care for children by  
 15 volunteer respite families that are under a contract for care  
 16 and in compliance with the best practice standards of a

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17 qualified association. The organization shall provide assistance  
18 and support to parents and training and support for volunteer  
19 respite families.

20 (d) "Volunteer respite family" means an individual or a  
21 family who voluntarily agrees to provide, without compensation,  
22 temporary respite care for a child, with the assistance of a  
23 qualified nonprofit organization, pursuant to a contract for  
24 care with the child's parent.

25 (e) "Volunteer respite home" means the home of a volunteer  
26 respite family.

27 (2) DUTIES OF THE QUALIFIED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.-

28 (a) A qualified nonprofit organization that provides  
29 services assisting parents in providing for the temporary  
30 respite care of their child with a volunteer family shall:

31 1. Establish its program under an agreement or  
32 certification with a qualified association;

33 2. Prior to allowing personnel, members of the volunteer  
34 respite home, or other program volunteers to have contact with a  
35 child, work with the department to ensure that background  
36 screenings of the personnel of the organization and members of  
37 the volunteer respite home are conducted in compliance with the  
38 screening requirements in s. 409.175 and chapter 435. Persons  
39 required to be screened pursuant to this section include:

40 a. Employees of the organization who have direct contact  
41 with children while assisting parents in providing temporary

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42 respite care.

43 b. Members of the volunteer respite family or persons  
44 residing in the volunteer respite home who are older than 12  
45 years of age. However, members of a volunteer respite family or  
46 persons residing in the volunteer respite home who are between  
47 the ages of 12 years and 18 years are not required to be  
48 fingerprinted but must be screened for delinquency records.

49 3. Train all volunteer respite families, such training to  
50 include:

51 a. Discussion of the rights, duties, and limitations  
52 regarding providing temporary care for a child under a contract  
53 for care authorized under this chapter;

54 b. An overview of program processes, including intake and  
55 working with third party service providers like schools and  
56 medical professionals;

57 c. General safety requirements, including SIDS,  
58 supervision, and water/pool safety;

59 d. Appropriate and constructive disciplinary practices,  
60 including the prohibition of physical punishment and the  
61 prohibition of discipline that is severe, humiliating,  
62 frightening, or associated with food, rest, or toileting;

63 e. Abuse and maltreatment reporting requirements, including  
64 proper cooperation with the department;

65 f. Confidentiality; and

66 g. Building a healthy relationship with the child's

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67 biological family.

68 4. Be solely responsible for ongoing supervision of each  
69 placement of a child with a volunteer respite family approved by  
70 the organization;

71 5. Maintain records on each volunteer respite family and  
72 child served, including, but not limited to:

73 a. The name and age of the child;

74 b. The name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and  
75 other contact information for the child's parents;

76 c. The name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and  
77 other contact information for the child's volunteer respite  
78 family;

79 d. A copy of the contract for respite care executed  
80 pursuant to this section; and

81 e. Proof of the volunteer respite family's compliance with  
82 the personnel screening requirements under this chapter.

83 6. Provide the following information to the department on  
84 an annual basis:

85 a. The name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and  
86 other contact information of the organization.

87 b. The name of the organization's director.

88 c. The names and addresses of the officers and members of  
89 the governing body of the organization.

90 d. The total number of approved volunteer respite families  
91 currently working with the organization and the total number of

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92 children served the previous fiscal year.

93 e. A copy of its agreement or certification with a  
94 qualified association for the purpose of providing volunteer  
95 respite services pursuant to this chapter.

96 7. Provide the qualified association with data and other  
97 information required by the qualified association to show that  
98 the qualified nonprofit organization is in substantial  
99 compliance with standards set by the qualified association.

100 8. Immediately notify the department of any suspected or  
101 confirmed incident of abuse, neglect, or other maltreatment of a  
102 child while in the care of one of the organization's volunteer  
103 respite families.

104 9. Make available to the department or qualified  
105 association at any time all records relating to the program and  
106 children cared for by the organization's volunteer respite  
107 families for inspection to ensure compliance with this section  
108 and standards established by any entity with which the  
109 organization is affiliated.

111 -----  
112 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

113 Remove lines 8-9 and insert:  
114 requirements for such organizations; exempting such  
115 organizations