

By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and
Senators Hutson and Perry

586-03122-20

20201748c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to child welfare; amending s. 39.01,
3 F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 39.0135, F.S.;
4 requiring that child support payments be deposited
5 into specified trust funds; amending s. 39.202, F.S.;
6 authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration
7 to access certain records; amending s. 39.6011, F.S.;
8 requiring certain documentation in the case plan when
9 a child is placed in a qualified residential treatment
10 program; amending s. 39.6221, F.S.; revising the
11 conditions under which a court determines permanent
12 guardian placement for a child; amending s. 39.6251,
13 F.S.; specifying certain facilities that are not
14 considered a supervised living arrangement; requiring
15 a supervised living arrangement to be voluntary;
16 amending s. 61.30, F.S.; providing a presumption for
17 child support in certain proceedings under ch. 39;
18 amending s. 409.145, F.S.; requiring certain screening
19 requirements for residential group home employees;
20 requiring a written agreement to modify foster care
21 room and board rates; providing an exception; amending
22 s. 409.1676, F.S.; revising legislative intent;
23 revising and providing definitions; revising a
24 provision requiring the department to contract with
25 certain entities; revising requirements for lead
26 agencies, not-for-profit corporations, and local
27 government entities with which the department is
28 contracted; deleting a provision authorizing the
29 department to transfer casework responsibilities for

586-03122-20

20201748c1

30 certain children to specified entities; providing
31 responsibilities for lead care agencies; providing
32 placement timeframes for the qualified residential
33 treatment program; deleting a provision requiring that
34 certain provisions be implemented to the extent of
35 available appropriations contained in the annual
36 General Appropriations Act; amending s. 409.1678,
37 F.S.; revising a requirement and an authorization for
38 safe houses; repealing s. 409.1679, F.S., relating to
39 comprehensive residential group care requirements and
40 reimbursement; amending s. 409.175, F.S.; revising
41 definitions; amending ss. 39.301, 39.302, 39.402,
42 39.501, and 39.6013, F.S.; making technical changes
43 and conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
44 providing an effective date.

45
46 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

47
48 Section 1. Subsections (11) and (67) of section 39.01,
49 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

50 39.01 Definitions.—When used in this chapter, unless the
51 context otherwise requires:

52 (11) "Case plan" means a document, as described in s.
53 39.6011, prepared by the department with input from all parties.
54 The case plan follows the child from the provision of preventive
55 ~~voluntary~~ services through any dependency, foster care, or
56 termination of parental rights proceeding or related activity or
57 process.

58 (67) "Preventive services" means social services and other

586-03122-20

20201748c1

59 supportive and rehabilitative services provided, either
60 voluntarily or by court order, to the parent or legal custodian
61 of the child and to the child or on behalf of the child for the
62 purpose of averting the removal of the child from the home or
63 disruption of a family which will or could result in the
64 placement of a child in foster care. Social services and other
65 supportive and rehabilitative services shall promote the child's
66 developmental needs and need for physical, mental, and emotional
67 health and a safe, stable, living environment; shall promote
68 family autonomy; and shall strengthen family life, whenever
69 possible.

70 Section 2. Section 39.0135, Florida Statutes, is amended to
71 read:

72 39.0135 Federal Grants and Operations and Maintenance Trust
73 Funds Fund.—The department shall deposit all child support
74 payments made to the department, equaling the cost of care,
75 under ~~pursuant to~~ this chapter into the Federal Grants Trust
76 Fund for Title IV-E eligible children and the Operations and
77 Maintenance Trust Fund for children ineligible for Title IV-E.
78 If the child support payment does not equal the cost of care,
79 the total amount of the payment shall be deposited into the
80 appropriate trust fund. The purpose of this funding is to care
81 for children who are committed to the temporary legal custody of
82 the department.

83 Section 3. Paragraphs (a) and (h) of subsection (2) of
84 section 39.202, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

85 39.202 Confidentiality of reports and records in cases of
86 child abuse or neglect.—

87 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), access to such

586-03122-20

20201748c1

88 records, excluding the name of, or other identifying information
89 with respect to, the reporter which shall be released only as
90 provided in subsection (5), shall be granted only to the
91 following persons, officials, and agencies:

92 (a) Employees, authorized agents, or contract providers of
93 the department, the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons
94 with Disabilities, the Agency for Health Care Administration,
95 the Office of Early Learning, or county agencies responsible for
96 carrying out:

- 97 1. Child or adult protective investigations;
- 98 2. Ongoing child or adult protective services;
- 99 3. Early intervention and prevention services;
- 100 4. Healthy Start services;

101 5. Licensure or approval of adoptive homes, foster homes,
102 child care facilities, facilities licensed under chapters 393
103 and 394 ~~chapter 393~~, family day care homes, providers who
104 receive school readiness funding under part VI of chapter 1002,
105 or other homes used to provide for the care and welfare of
106 children;

107 6. Employment screening for employees ~~caregivers~~ in
108 residential group homes licensed by the department, the Agency
109 for Persons with Disabilities, or the Agency for Health Care
110 Administration; or

111 7. Services for victims of domestic violence when provided
112 by certified domestic violence centers working at the
113 department's request as case consultants or with shared clients.

114

115 Also, employees or agents of the Department of Juvenile Justice
116 responsible for the provision of services to children, under

586-03122-20

20201748c1

117 ~~pursuant to~~ chapters 984 and 985.

118 (h) Any appropriate official of the department, the Agency
119 for Health Care Administration, or the Agency for Persons with
120 Disabilities who is responsible for:

121 1. Administration or supervision of the department's
122 program for the prevention, investigation, or treatment of child
123 abuse, abandonment, or neglect, or abuse, neglect, or
124 exploitation of a vulnerable adult, when carrying out his or her
125 official function;

126 2. Taking appropriate administrative action concerning an
127 employee of the department or the agency who is alleged to have
128 perpetrated child abuse, abandonment, or neglect, or abuse,
129 neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult; or

130 3. Employing and continuing employment of personnel of the
131 department or the agency.

132 Section 4. Present subsections (6) through (9) of section
133 39.6011, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (7)
134 through (10), respectively, and a new subsection (6) is added to
135 that section, to read:

136 39.6011 Case plan development.—

137 (6) When a child is placed in a qualified residential
138 treatment program, the case plan must include documentation
139 outlining the most recent assessment for a qualified residential
140 treatment program, the date of the most recent placement in a
141 qualified residential treatment program, the treatment or
142 service needs of the child, and preparation for the child to
143 return home or be in an out-of-home placement. If a child is
144 placed in a qualified residential treatment program for longer
145 than the timeframes described in s. 409.1676, a copy of the

586-03122-20

20201748c1

146 signed approval of such placement by the department must be
147 included in the case plan.

148 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
149 39.6221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

150 39.6221 Permanent guardianship of a dependent child.—

151 (1) If a court determines that reunification or adoption is
152 not in the best interest of the child, the court may place the
153 child in a permanent guardianship with a relative or other adult
154 approved by the court if all of the following conditions are
155 met:

156 (a) The child has been in the placement for not less than
157 the preceding 6 months, or the preceding 3 months if the
158 caregiver has been named as the successor guardian on the
159 child's guardianship assistance agreement.

160 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
161 39.6251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

162 39.6251 Continuing care for young adults.—

163 (4) (a) The young adult must reside in a supervised living
164 environment that is approved by the department or a community-
165 based care lead agency. The young adult shall live
166 independently, but in an environment in which he or she is
167 provided supervision, case management, and supportive services
168 by the department or lead agency. Such an environment must offer
169 developmentally appropriate freedom and responsibility to
170 prepare the young adult for adulthood. For the purposes of this
171 subsection, a supervised living arrangement may include a
172 licensed foster home, licensed group home, college dormitory,
173 shared housing, apartment, or another housing arrangement if the
174 arrangement is approved by the community-based care lead agency

586-03122-20

20201748c1

175 and is acceptable to the young adult. A young adult may continue
176 to reside with the same licensed foster family or group care
177 provider with whom he or she was residing at the time he or she
178 reached the age of 18 years. A supervised living arrangement may
179 not include detention facilities, forestry camps, training
180 schools, or any other facility operated primarily for the
181 detention of children or young adults who are determined to be
182 delinquent. A young adult may not reside in any setting in which
183 the young adult is involuntarily placed.

184 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
185 61.30, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is added
186 to that subsection, to read:

187 61.30 Child support guidelines; retroactive child support.—

188 (1) (a) The child support guideline amount as determined by
189 this section presumptively establishes the amount the trier of
190 fact shall order as child support in an initial proceeding for
191 such support or in a proceeding for modification of an existing
192 order for such support, whether the proceeding arises under this
193 or another chapter, except as provided in paragraph (d). The
194 trier of fact may order payment of child support which varies,
195 plus or minus 5 percent, from the guideline amount, after
196 considering all relevant factors, including the needs of the
197 child or children, age, station in life, standard of living, and
198 the financial status and ability of each parent. The trier of
199 fact may order payment of child support in an amount which
200 varies more than 5 percent from such guideline amount only upon
201 a written finding explaining why ordering payment of such
202 guideline amount would be unjust or inappropriate.

203 Notwithstanding the variance limitations of this section, the

586-03122-20

20201748c1

204 trier of fact shall order payment of child support which varies
205 from the guideline amount as provided in paragraph (11) (b)
206 whenever any of the children are required by court order or
207 mediation agreement to spend a substantial amount of time with
208 either parent. This requirement applies to any living
209 arrangement, whether temporary or permanent.

210 (d) In a proceeding under chapter 39, if the child is in an
211 out-of-home placement, the presumptively correct amount of
212 periodic support is 10 percent of the obligor's actual or
213 imputed gross income. The court may deviate from this
214 presumption as provided in paragraph (a).

215 Section 8. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) and paragraph
216 (f) of subsection (4) of section 409.145, Florida Statutes, are
217 amended, and paragraph (h) is added to subsection (4) of that
218 section, to read:

219 409.145 Care of children; quality parenting; "reasonable
220 and prudent parent" standard.—The child welfare system of the
221 department shall operate as a coordinated community-based system
222 of care which empowers all caregivers for children in foster
223 care to provide quality parenting, including approving or
224 disapproving a child's participation in activities based on the
225 caregiver's assessment using the "reasonable and prudent parent"
226 standard.

227 (2) QUALITY PARENTING.—A child in foster care shall be
228 placed only with a caregiver who has the ability to care for the
229 child, is willing to accept responsibility for providing care,
230 and is willing and able to learn about and be respectful of the
231 child's culture, religion and ethnicity, special physical or
232 psychological needs, any circumstances unique to the child, and

586-03122-20

20201748c1

233 family relationships. The department, the community-based care
234 lead agency, and other agencies shall provide such caregiver
235 with all available information necessary to assist the caregiver
236 in determining whether he or she is able to appropriately care
237 for a particular child.

238 (e) Employees of Caregivers employed by residential group
239 homes.-All employees, including persons who do not work directly
240 with children, of a residential group home must meet the
241 background screening requirements under s. 39.0138 and the level
242 2 standards for screening under chapter 435 ~~All caregivers in~~
243 ~~residential group homes shall meet the same education, training,~~
244 ~~and background and other screening requirements as foster~~
245 ~~parents.~~

246 (4) FOSTER CARE ROOM AND BOARD RATES.-

247 (f) Excluding level I family foster homes, the amount of
248 the monthly foster care room and board rate may be increased
249 upon agreement among the department, the community-based care
250 lead agency, and the foster parent.

251 (h) All room and board rate increases, excluding increases
252 under paragraph (b), must be outlined in a written agreement
253 between the department and the community-based care lead agency.

254 Section 9. Section 409.1676, Florida Statutes, is amended
255 to read:

256 409.1676 Comprehensive residential group care services ~~to~~
257 ~~children who have extraordinary needs.-~~

258 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide
259 comprehensive residential group care services, ~~including~~
260 ~~residential care, case management, and other services, to~~
261 ~~children in the child protection system who have extraordinary~~

586-03122-20

20201748c1

262 ~~needs~~. These services are to be provided in a residential group
263 care setting by a not-for-profit corporation or a local
264 government entity under a contract with the Department of
265 Children and Families or by a lead agency as described in s.
266 409.987. These contracts should be designed to provide an
267 identified number of children with access to a full array of
268 services for a fixed price. Further, it is the intent of the
269 Legislature that the Department of Children and Families and the
270 Department of Juvenile Justice establish an interagency
271 agreement ~~by December 1, 2002~~, which describes respective agency
272 responsibilities for referral, placement, service provision, and
273 service coordination for children under the care and supervision
274 of the department ~~dependent~~ and delinquent youth who are
275 referred to these residential group care facilities. The
276 agreement must require interagency collaboration in the
277 development of terms, conditions, and performance outcomes for
278 residential group care contracts serving the youth referred who
279 are under the care and supervision of the department and
280 delinquent ~~have been adjudicated both dependent and delinquent~~.

281 (2) As used in this section, the term:

282 (a) ~~"Child with extraordinary needs" means a dependent~~
283 ~~child who has serious behavioral problems or who has been~~
284 ~~determined to be without the options of either reunification~~
285 ~~with family or adoption.~~

286 ~~(b)~~ "Residential group care" means a living environment for
287 children who are under the care and supervision of the
288 department ~~have been adjudicated dependent and are expected to~~
289 ~~be in foster care for at least 6 months~~ with 24-hour-awake staff
290 or live-in group home parents or staff. Each facility must be

586-03122-20

20201748c1

291 appropriately licensed in this state as a residential child
292 caring agency as defined in s. 409.175(2)(1) ~~and must be~~
293 ~~accredited by July 1, 2005. A residential group care facility~~
294 ~~servicing children having a serious behavioral problem as defined~~
295 ~~in this section must have available staff or contract personnel~~
296 ~~with the clinical expertise, credentials, and training to~~
297 ~~provide services identified in subsection (4).~~

298 ~~(c) "Serious behavioral problems" means behaviors of~~
299 ~~children who have been assessed by a licensed master's level~~
300 ~~human services professional to need at a minimum intensive~~
301 ~~services but who do not meet the criteria of s. 394.492(7). A~~
302 ~~child with an emotional disturbance as defined in s. 394.492(5)~~
303 ~~or (6) may be served in residential group care unless a~~
304 ~~determination is made by a mental health professional that such~~
305 ~~a setting is inappropriate. A child having a serious behavioral~~
306 ~~problem must have been determined in the assessment to have at~~
307 ~~least one of the following risk factors:~~

308 ~~1. An adjudication of delinquency and be on conditional~~
309 ~~release status with the Department of Juvenile Justice.~~

310 ~~2. A history of physical aggression or violent behavior~~
311 ~~toward self or others, animals, or property within the past~~
312 ~~year.~~

313 ~~3. A history of setting fires within the past year.~~

314 ~~4. A history of multiple episodes of running away from home~~
315 ~~or placements within the past year.~~

316 ~~5. A history of sexual aggression toward other youth.~~

317 (b) "Qualifying assessment" is a department-approved
318 functional assessment administered by a qualified individual to
319 recommend or affirm placement in a qualified residential

586-03122-20

20201748c1

320 treatment program.

321 (c) "Qualified individual" means a trained professional
322 with experience working with children or adolescents involved in
323 the child welfare system and who is not employed by the
324 department or lead agency and has no actual or perceived
325 conflict of interest with any placement setting or program.

326 (d) "Qualified residential treatment program" has the same
327 meaning as provided in 42 U.S.C. s. 672.

328 ~~(3) The department, in accordance with a specific~~
329 ~~appropriation for this program,~~ shall contract with a not-for-
330 profit corporation, a local government entity, or the lead
331 agency that has been established in accordance with s. 409.987
332 for the performance of residential group care services described
333 in this section. A lead agency that is currently providing
334 residential care may provide this service directly with the
335 approval of the local community alliance. The department or a
336 lead agency may contract for more than one site in a county if
337 that is determined to be the most effective way to achieve the
338 goals set forth in this section.

339 (4) The lead agency, the contracted not-for-profit
340 corporation, or the local government entity is responsible for a
341 comprehensive assessment, a qualifying assessment, residential
342 care, transportation, access to behavioral health services,
343 recreational activities, clothing, supplies, and miscellaneous
344 expenses associated with caring for these children; for
345 necessary arrangement for or provision of educational services;
346 and for assuring necessary and appropriate health and dental
347 care.

348 ~~(5) The department may transfer all casework~~

586-03122-20

20201748c1

349 ~~responsibilities for children served under this program to the~~
350 ~~entity that provides this service, including case management and~~
351 ~~development and implementation of a case plan in accordance with~~
352 ~~current standards for child protection services. When the~~
353 ~~department establishes this program in a community that has a~~
354 ~~lead agency as described in s. 409.987, the casework~~
355 ~~responsibilities must be transferred to the lead agency.~~

356 (5)~~(6)~~ This section does not prohibit any provider of these
357 services from appropriately billing Medicaid for services
358 rendered, from contracting with a local school district for
359 educational services, or from earning federal or local funding
360 for services provided, as long as two or more funding sources do
361 not pay for the same specific service that has been provided to
362 a child.

363 (6)~~(7)~~ The lead agency, not-for-profit corporation, or
364 local government entity has the legal authority for children
365 served under this program, as provided in chapter 39 or this
366 chapter, as appropriate, to enroll the child in school, to sign
367 for a driver license for the child, to cosign loans and
368 insurance for the child, to sign for medical treatment, and to
369 authorize other such activities.

370 (7) For children placed in a qualified residential
371 treatment program, the lead agency shall:

372 (a) Ensure each child receives a qualifying assessment no
373 later than 30 days after placement in the program.

374 (b) Maintain documentation of a child's placement as
375 specified in s. 39.6011(6).

376 (c) Not place a child in a qualified residential treatment
377 program for more than 12 consecutive months or 18 nonconsecutive

586-03122-20

20201748c1

378 months, or if the child is under the age of 13 years, for more
379 than 6 months, whether consecutive or nonconsecutive, without
380 the signed approval of the department for the continued
381 placement.

382 (d) Provide a copy of the qualifying assessment to the
383 department; the guardian ad litem; and, if the child is a member
384 of a Medicaid managed care plan, to the plan that is financially
385 responsible for the child's care in residential treatment.

386 (8) Within 60 days after initial placement, the court must
387 approve or disapprove the placement based on the qualified
388 assessment, determination, and documentation made by the
389 qualified evaluator, as well as any other factors the court
390 deems fit.

391 (9)(8) The department shall provide technical assistance as
392 requested and contract management services.

393 ~~(9) The provisions of this section shall be implemented to~~
394 ~~the extent of available appropriations contained in the annual~~
395 ~~General Appropriations Act for such purpose.~~

396 (10) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer
397 this section.

398 Section 10. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
399 409.1678, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400 409.1678 Specialized residential options for children who
401 are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.—

402 (2) CERTIFICATION OF SAFE HOUSES AND SAFE FOSTER HOMES.—

403 (c) To be certified, a safe house must hold a license as a
404 residential child-caring agency, as defined in s. 409.175, and a
405 safe foster home must hold a license as a family foster home, as
406 defined in s. 409.175. A safe house or safe foster home must

586-03122-20

20201748c1

407 also:

- 408 1. Use strength-based and trauma-informed approaches to
409 care, to the extent possible and appropriate.
- 410 2. Serve exclusively one sex.
- 411 3. Group child victims of commercial sexual exploitation by
412 age or maturity level.
- 413 4. If a safe house, care for child victims of commercial
414 sexual exploitation ~~in a manner that separates those children~~
415 ~~from children with other needs. Safe houses and Safe foster~~
416 homes may care for other populations if the children who have
417 not experienced commercial sexual exploitation do not interact
418 with children who have experienced commercial sexual
419 exploitation.
- 420 5. Have awake staff members on duty 24 hours a day, if a
421 safe house.
- 422 6. Provide appropriate security through facility design,
423 hardware, technology, staffing, and siting, including, but not
424 limited to, external video monitoring or door exit alarms, a
425 high staff-to-client ratio, or being situated in a remote
426 location that is isolated from major transportation centers and
427 common trafficking areas.
- 428 7. Meet other criteria established by department rule,
429 which may include, but are not limited to, personnel
430 qualifications, staffing ratios, and types of services offered.

431 Section 11. Section 409.1679, Florida Statutes, is
432 repealed.

433 Section 12. Paragraphs (l) and (m) of subsection (2) of
434 section 409.175, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

435 409.175 Licensure of family foster homes, residential

586-03122-20

20201748c1

436 child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies; public
437 records exemption.-

438 (2) As used in this section, the term:

439 (1) "Residential child-caring agency" means any person,
440 corporation, or agency, public or private, other than the
441 child's parent or legal guardian, that provides staffed 24-hour
442 care for children in facilities maintained for that purpose,
443 regardless of whether operated for profit or whether a fee is
444 charged. Such residential child-caring agencies include, but are
445 not limited to, maternity homes, runaway shelters, group homes
446 that are administered by an agency, emergency shelters that are
447 not in private residences, qualified residential treatment
448 programs as defined in s. 409.1676, human trafficking safe
449 houses as defined in s. 409.1678, at-risk homes, and wilderness
450 camps. Residential child-caring agencies do not include
451 hospitals, boarding schools, summer or recreation camps, nursing
452 homes, or facilities operated by a governmental agency for the
453 training, treatment, or secure care of delinquent youth, or
454 facilities licensed under s. 393.067 or s. 394.875 or chapter
455 397.

456 (m) "Screening" means the act of assessing the background
457 of personnel or level II through level V family foster homes and
458 includes, but is not limited to, criminal history checks as
459 provided in s. 39.0138 and employment history checks as provided
460 in chapter 435, using the level 2 standards for screening set
461 forth in that chapter.

462 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (14) of section
463 39.301, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

464 39.301 Initiation of protective investigations.-

586-03122-20

20201748c1

465 (14) (a) If the department or its agent determines that a
466 child requires immediate or long-term protection through medical
467 or other health care or homemaker care, day care, protective
468 supervision, or other services to stabilize the home
469 environment, including intensive family preservation services
470 through the Intensive Crisis Counseling Program, such services
471 shall first be offered for voluntary acceptance unless:

472 1. There are high-risk factors that may impact the ability
473 of the parents or legal custodians to exercise judgment. Such
474 factors may include the parents' or legal custodians' young age
475 or history of substance abuse, mental illness, or domestic
476 violence; or

477 2. There is a high likelihood of lack of compliance with
478 preventive ~~voluntary~~ services, and such noncompliance would
479 result in the child being unsafe.

480 Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section
481 39.302, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

482 39.302 Protective investigations of institutional child
483 abuse, abandonment, or neglect.—

484 (7) When an investigation of institutional abuse, neglect,
485 or abandonment is closed and a person is not identified as a
486 caregiver responsible for the abuse, neglect, or abandonment
487 alleged in the report, the fact that the person is named in some
488 capacity in the report may not be used in any way to adversely
489 affect the interests of that person. This prohibition applies to
490 any use of the information in employment screening, licensing,
491 child placement, adoption, or any other decisions by a private
492 adoption agency or a state agency or its contracted providers.

493 (b) Likewise, if a person is employed as a caregiver in a

586-03122-20

20201748c1

494 residential group home licensed under ~~pursuant to~~ s. 409.175 and
495 is named in any capacity in three or more reports within a 5-
496 year period, the department may review all reports for the
497 purposes of the employment screening required under s.
498 409.175(2)(m) ~~pursuant to s. 409.145(2)(c)~~.

499 Section 15. Subsection (15) of section 39.402, Florida
500 Statutes, is amended to read:

501 39.402 Placement in a shelter.—

502 (15) The department, at the conclusion of the shelter
503 hearing, shall make available to parents or legal custodians
504 seeking preventive ~~voluntary~~ services any referral information
505 necessary for participation in such identified services to allow
506 the parents or legal custodians to begin the services as soon as
507 possible. The parents' or legal custodians' participation in the
508 services may not be considered an admission or other
509 acknowledgment of the allegations in the shelter petition.

510 Section 16. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section
511 39.501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

512 39.501 Petition for dependency.—

513 (3)

514 (d) The petitioner must state in the petition, if known,
515 whether:

516 1. A parent or legal custodian named in the petition has
517 previously unsuccessfully participated in preventive ~~voluntary~~
518 services offered by the department;

519 2. A parent or legal custodian named in the petition has
520 participated in mediation and whether a mediation agreement
521 exists;

522 3. A parent or legal custodian has rejected the preventive

586-03122-20

20201748c1

523 ~~voluntary~~ services offered by the department;

524 4. A parent or legal custodian named in the petition has
525 not fully complied with a safety plan; or

526 5. The department has determined that preventive ~~voluntary~~
527 services are not appropriate for the parent or legal custodian
528 and the reasons for such determination.

529

530 If the department is the petitioner, it shall provide all safety
531 plans as defined in s. 39.01 involving the parent or legal
532 custodian to the court.

533 Section 17. Subsection (8) of section 39.6013, Florida
534 Statutes, is amended to read:

535 39.6013 Case plan amendments.—

536 (8) Amendments must include service interventions that are
537 the least intrusive into the life of the parent and child, must
538 focus on clearly defined objectives, and must provide the most
539 efficient path to quick reunification or permanent placement
540 given the circumstances of the case and the child's need for
541 safe and proper care. A copy of the amended plan must be
542 immediately given to the persons identified in s. 39.6011(8)(c)
543 ~~s. 39.6011(7)(e)~~.

544 Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.