

	LEGISLATIVE ACTION	
Senate		House
Comm: RCS		
03/10/2021		
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services (Bean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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Delete lines 358 - 957

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and insert:

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Section 5. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (3) of section 394.9082, Florida Statutes, to read:

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394.9082 Behavioral health managing entities.-

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(3) DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—The department shall:

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(m) Col<u>lect and post all of the following information on</u> its website, updated annually, for each managing entity under

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contract with the department:

- 1. Current salaries, bonuses, and other compensation paid, by position, for any employee who receives a salary from stateappropriated funds, including state-appropriated federal funds, whether base pay or base pay combined with any bonus or incentive payments, in excess of 150 percent of the annual salary paid to the secretary of the Department of Children and Families. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "employee" includes, but is not limited to, the chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and chief operating officer, or any other executive staff of the managing entity.
- 2. All findings of the comprehensive, multi-year review of the revenues, expenditures, and financial position of all managing entities, which shall cover the most recent two consecutive fiscal years. The review must include a comprehensive system-of-care analysis and provide expenditure information related to direct care, administration, and indirect costs. All contracted entities must develop and maintain a plan to achieve financial viability which shall accompany the department's submission. The findings from this review shall be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1, of each year in addition to being posted on the department's internet website.

Section 6. Section 394.90825, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

394.90825 Boards of managing entities; conflicts of interest.-

(1) As used in this section, the term:

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- (a) "Activity" includes, but is not limited to, a contract for goods and services, a contract for the purchase of any real or tangible property, or an agreement to engage with the managing entity for the benefit of a third party in exchange for an interest in real or tangible property, a monetary benefit, or an in-kind contribution.
- (b) "Conflict of interest" means when a board member or an officer, or a relative of a board member or an officer, of the managing entity does any of the following:
- 1. Enters into a contract or other transaction for goods or services with the managing entity.
- 2. Holds a direct or indirect interest in a corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership, limited liability partnership, or other business entity that conducts business with the managing entity or proposes to enter into a contract or other transaction with the managing entity. For purposes of this paragraph, "indirect interest" has the same meaning as provided in s. 112.3<u>12.</u>
- 3. Knowingly obtains a direct or indirect personal, financial, professional, or other benefit as a result of the relationship of such member or officer, or relative of the member or officer, with the managing entity. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "benefit" does not include per diem and travel expenses paid or reimbursed to board members in connection with their service on the board.
- (c) "Managing entity" has the same meaning as in s. 394.9082.
- (d) "Relative" means a relative within the third degree of consanguinity by blood or marriage.

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- (2) (a) For any activity that is presented to the board of a managing entity for its initial consideration and approval after July 1, 2021, or any activity that involves a contract that is being considered for renewal on or after July 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2022, a board member or an officer of a managing entity shall disclose to the board any activity that may reasonably be construed to be a conflict of interest before such activity is initially considered and approved or renewed by the board. A rebuttable presumption of a conflict of interest exists if the activity was acted upon by the board without prior notice as required under subsection (3).
- (b) For contracts with a managing entity which are in existence on July 1, 2021, and are not subject to renewal before January 1, 2022, a board member or an officer shall disclose to the board any activity that may reasonably be construed to be a conflict of interest under this section by December 31, 2021.
- (3) (a) If a board member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, proposes to engage in an activity as described in (2)(a), the proposed activity must be listed on the meeting agenda for the next general or special meeting of the members, and copies of all contracts and transactional documents related to the proposed activity must be included in the agenda. The meeting agenda must clearly identify the existence of a potential conflict of interest for the proposed activity. Before a member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, engages in the proposed activity, the activity and contract or other transaction documents must be approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all other members present.
 - (b) If a member or an officer notifies the board of a

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potential conflict of interest with the member or officer, or a relative of the member or officer, under an existing contract as described in paragraph (2)(b), the board must notice the activity on a meeting agenda for the next general or special meeting of the members, and copies of all contracts and transactional documents related to the activity must be attached. The meeting agenda must clearly identify the existence of a potential conflict of interest. The board must be given the opportunity to approve or disapprove the conflict of interest by a vote of two-thirds of all other members present.

(4) (a) If the board votes against the proposed activity pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), the board member or officer, or the relative of the member or officer, must notify the board in writing of his or her intention, or his or her relative's intention, not to pursue the proposed activity, or the member or officer shall withdraw from office before the next scheduled board meeting. If the board finds that an officer or a member has violated this paragraph, the officer or member shall be deemed removed from office before the next scheduled board meeting.

(b) In the event that the board does not approve of a conflict of interest as required in paragraph (3)(b), the parties to the activity may opt to cancel the activity or, in the alternative, the member or officer must resign from the board before the next scheduled board meeting. If the activity canceled is a contract, the managing entity is only liable for the reasonable value of the goods and services provided up to the time of cancellation and is not liable for any termination fee, liquidated damages, or other form of penalty for such



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- (5) A board member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, who is a party to, or has an interest in, an activity that is a possible conflict of interest may attend the meeting at which the activity is considered by the board and is authorized to make a presentation to the board regarding the activity. After the presentation, the member or officer, or the relative of the member or officer, shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the activity. A member or an officer who is a party to, or has an interest in, the activity shall recuse himself or herself from the vote.
- (6) A contract entered into between a board member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, and the managing entity which has not been properly disclosed as a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest under this section is voidable and terminates upon the filing of a written notice terminating the contract with the board of directors which contains the consent of at least 20 percent of the voting interests of the managing entity.

Section 7. Section 409.987, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.987 Lead agency procurement; boards; conflicts of interest.-

- (1) Community-based care lead agencies shall be procured by the department through a competitive process as required under chapter 287.
- (2) The department shall produce a schedule for the procurement of community-based care lead agencies and provide the schedule to the community alliances established pursuant to

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- 156 s. 20.19(5) and post the schedule on the department's website.
 - (3) Notwithstanding s. 287.057, the department shall use 5year contracts with lead agencies.
 - (4) In order to serve as a lead agency, an entity must:
 - (a) Be organized as a Florida corporation or a governmental entity.
 - (b) Be governed by a board of directors or a board committee composed of board members. The membership of the board of directors or board committee must be described in the bylaws or articles of incorporation of each lead agency, which must provide that at least 75 percent of the membership of the board of directors or board committee must consist of persons residing in this state, and at least 51 percent of the state residents on the board of directors must reside within the service area of the lead agency. However, for procurements of lead agency contracts initiated on or after July 1, 2014:
 - 1. At least 75 percent of the membership of the board of directors must consist of persons residing in this state, and at least 51 percent of the membership of the board of directors must consist of persons residing within the service area of the lead agency. If a board committee governs the lead agency, 100 percent of its membership must consist of persons residing within the service area of the lead agency.
 - 2. The powers of the board of directors or board committee include, but are not limited to, approving the lead agency's budget and setting the lead agency's operational policy and procedures. A board of directors must additionally have the power to hire the lead agency's executive director, unless a board committee governs the lead agency, in which case the board

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committee must have the power to confirm the selection of the lead agency's executive director.

- (c) Demonstrate financial responsibility through an organized plan for regular fiscal audits and the posting of a performance bond.
- (5) The department's procurement team procuring any lead agencies' contracts must include individuals from the community alliance in the area to be served under the contract. All meetings at which vendors make presentations to or negotiate with the procurement team shall be held in the area to be served by the contract.
- (6) In communities where conditions make it impossible or not feasible to competitively contract with a lead agency, the department shall develop an alternative plan, in collaboration with the local community alliance, that may include establishing an innovative consortia of partners which may include, but is not limited to, private entities, local and county governmental entities, and the department. The plan must detail how the community will continue to implement community-based care through competitively procuring either the specific components of foster care and related services or comprehensive services for defined eligible populations of children and families from qualified licensed agencies as part of the community's efforts to develop the local capacity for a community-based system of coordinated care. The plan must ensure local control over the management and administration of the service provision in accordance with the intent of this section and may adhere to recognized best business practices, including, but not limited to, the use of public or private partnerships.

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(7) (a) As used in this subsection, the term:

- 1. "Activity" includes, but is not limited to, a contract for goods and services, a contract for the purchase of any real or tangible property, or an agreement to engage with the lead agency for the benefit of a third party in exchange for an interest in real or tangible property, a monetary benefit, or an in-kind contribution.
- 2. "Conflict of interest" means when a board member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, of the lead agency does any of the following:
- a. Enters into a contract or other transaction for goods or services with the lead agency.
- b. Holds a direct or indirect interest in a corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership, limited liability partnership, or other business entity that conducts business with the lead agency or proposes to enter into a contract or other transaction with the lead agency. For purposes of this subparagraph, "indirect interest" has the same meaning as provided in s. 112.312.
- c. Knowingly obtains a direct or indirect personal, financial, professional, or other benefit as a result of the relationship of such member or officer, or relative of the member or officer, with the lead agency. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "benefits" does not include per diem and travel expenses paid or reimbursed to board members in connection with their service on the board.
- 3. "Relative" means a relative within the third degree of consanguinity by blood or marriage.
 - (b) 1. For any activity that is presented to the board for

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its initial consideration and approval on or after July 1, 2021, or any activity that involves a contract which is being considered for renewal on or after July 1, 2021, and before January 1, 2022, a board member or an officer of a lead agency must disclose to the board any activity that may reasonably be construed to be a conflict of interest before such activity is initially considered and approved or renewed by the board. A rebuttable presumption of a conflict of interest exists if the activity was acted upon by the board without prior notice, as required in paragraph (c).

- 2. For contracts with a lead agency which are in existence on July 1, 2021, and are not subject to renewal before January 1, 2022, a board member or officer shall disclose to the board any activity that may reasonably be construed to be a conflict of interest under this section by December 31, 2021.
- (c) 1. If a member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, proposes to engage in an activity that is covered by subparagraph (b)1., the proposed activity must be listed on the meeting agenda for the next general or special meeting of the members, and copies of all contracts and transactional documents related to the proposed activity must be included in the agenda. The meeting agenda must clearly identify the existence of a potential conflict of interest for the proposed activity. Before a member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, engages in the proposed activity, the activity and contract or other transaction documents must be approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all other members present.
 - 2. If a member or an officer notifies the board of a

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potential conflict of interest with the member or officer, or a relative of the member or officer, under an existing contract as described in subparagraph (b) 2., the board must notice the activity on a meeting agenda for the next general or special meeting of the members, and copies of all contracts and transactional documents related to the activity must be attached. The meeting agenda must clearly identify the existence of a potential conflict of interest. The board must be given the opportunity to approve or disapprove of the conflict of interest by a vote of two-thirds of all other members present.

(d) 1. If the board votes against the proposed activity pursuant to subparagraph (c)1., the member or officer, or the relative of the member or officer, must notify the board in writing of his or her intention, or his or her relative's intention, not to pursue the proposed activity, or the member or officer shall withdraw from office before the next scheduled board meeting. If the board finds that an officer or a member has violated this subparagraph, the officer or member shall be deemed removed from office before the next scheduled board meeting.

2. In the event that the board does not approve of a conflict as required in subparagraph (c)2., the parties to the activity may opt to cancel the activity or, in the alternative, the member or officer must resign from the board before the next scheduled board meeting. If the activity canceled is a contract, the lead agency is only liable for the reasonable value of the goods and services provided up to the time of cancellation and is not liable for any termination fee, liquidated damages, or other form of penalty for such cancellation.

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- (e) A member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, who is a party to, or has an interest in, an activity that is a possible conflict of interest may attend the meeting at which the activity is considered by the board and is authorized to make a presentation to the board regarding the activity. After the presentation, the member or officer, or the relative of the member or officer, must leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the activity. A member or an officer who is a party to, or has an interest in, the activity must recuse himself or herself from the vote.
- (f) A contract entered into between a member or an officer, or a relative of a member or an officer, and the lead agency which has not been properly disclosed as a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest under this subsection is voidable and terminates upon the filing of a written notice terminating the contract with the board of directors which contains the consent of at least 20 percent of the voting interests of the lead agency.

Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 409.988, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.988 Lead agency duties; general provisions.-
- (1) DUTIES.—A lead agency:
- (a) Shall serve all children referred as a result of a report of abuse, neglect, or abandonment to the department's central abuse hotline, including, but not limited to, children who are the subject of verified reports and children who are not the subject of verified reports but who are at moderate to extremely high risk of abuse, neglect, or abandonment, as determined using the department's risk assessment instrument,

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regardless of the level of funding allocated to the lead agency by the state if all related funding is transferred. The lead agency may also serve children who have not been the subject of reports of abuse, neglect, or abandonment, but who are at risk of abuse, neglect, or abandonment, to prevent their entry into the child protection and child welfare system.

- (b) Shall provide accurate and timely information necessary for oversight by the department pursuant to the child welfare results-oriented accountability system required by s. 409.997.
- (c) Shall follow the financial guidelines developed by the department and provide for a regular independent auditing of its financial activities. Such financial information shall be provided to the community alliance established under s. 20.19(5).
- (d) Shall post on its website the current budget for the lead agency, including the salaries, bonuses, and other compensation paid, by position, for the agency's chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and chief operating officer, or their equivalents.

(e) Shall prepare all judicial reviews, case plans, and other reports necessary for court hearings for dependent children, except those related to the investigation of a referral from the department's child abuse hotline, and shall submit these documents timely to the department's attorneys for review, any necessary revision, and filing with the court. The lead agency shall make the necessary staff available to department attorneys for preparation for dependency proceedings, and shall provide testimony and other evidence required for dependency court proceedings in coordination with the

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department's attorneys. This duty does not include the preparation of legal pleadings or other legal documents, which remain the responsibility of the department.

- (e) (f) Shall ensure that all individuals providing care for dependent children receive:
- 1. Appropriate training and meet the minimum employment standards established by the department. Appropriate training shall include, but is not limited to, training on the recognition of and responses to head trauma and brain injury in a child under 6 years of age developed by the Child Protection Team Program within the Department of Health.
- 2. Contact information for the local mobile response team established under s. 394.495.
- (f) (g) Shall maintain eligibility to receive all available federal child welfare funds.
- (g) Shall demonstrate the ability to adhere to all best child welfare practices pursuant to ss. 39.4087, 39.523, 409.1415, and 409.145.
- (h) Shall maintain written agreements with Healthy Families Florida lead entities in its service area pursuant to s. 409.153 to promote cooperative planning for the provision of prevention and intervention services.
- (i) Shall comply with federal and state statutory requirements and agency rules in the provision of contractual services.
- (j) May subcontract for the provision of services required by the contract with the lead agency and the department; however, the subcontracts must specify how the provider will contribute to the lead agency meeting the performance standards

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established pursuant to the child welfare results-oriented accountability system required by s. 409.997. The lead agency shall directly provide no more than 35 percent of all child welfare services provided unless it can demonstrate a need, within the lead agency's geographic service area, to exceed this threshold. The local community alliance in the geographic service area in which the lead agency is seeking to exceed the threshold shall review the lead agency's justification for need and recommend to the department whether the department should approve or deny the lead agency's request for an exemption from the services threshold. If there is not a community alliance operating in the geographic service area in which the lead agency is seeking to exceed the threshold, such review and recommendation shall be made by representatives of local stakeholders, including at least one representative from each of the following:

- 1. The department.
- 2. The county government.
- 3. The school district.
- 4. The county United Way.
- 5. The county sheriff's office.
- 6. The circuit court corresponding to the county.
- 7. The county children's board, if one exists.
- (k) Shall post on its website by the 15th day of each month at a minimum the information contained in subparagraphs 1.-4. for the preceding calendar month regarding its case management services. The following information shall be reported by each individual subcontracted case management provider, by the lead agency, if the lead agency provides case management services,

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and in total for all case management services subcontracted or directly provided by the lead agency:

- 1. The average caseload of case managers, including only filled positions;
- 2. The turnover rate for case managers and case management supervisors for the previous 12 months;
 - 3. The percentage of required home visits completed; and
- 4. Performance on outcome measures required pursuant to s. 409.997 for the previous 12 months.
- (1) Shall identify an employee to serve as a liaison with the community alliance and community-based and faith-based organizations interested in collaborating with the lead agency or offering services or other assistance on a volunteer basis to the children and families served by the lead agency. The lead agency shall ensure that appropriate lead agency staff and subcontractors, including, but not limited to, case managers, are informed of the specific services or assistance available from community-based and faith-based organizations.

Section 9. Present subsections (3) through (25) of section 409.996, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) through (26), respectively, a new subsection (3) is added to that section, and subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (d) of present subsection (25) are amended, to read:

409.996 Duties of the Department of Children and Families.-The department shall contract for the delivery, administration, or management of care for children in the child protection and child welfare system. In doing so, the department retains responsibility for the quality of contracted services and programs and shall ensure that, at a minimum, services are

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delivered in accordance with applicable federal and state statutes and regulations and the performance standards and metrics specified in the strategic plan created under s. 20.19(1).

- (1) The department shall enter into contracts with lead agencies for the performance of the duties by the lead agencies established in s. 409.988. At a minimum, the contracts must do all of the following:
- (a) Provide for the services needed to accomplish the duties established in s. 409.988. and
- (b) Provide information to the department which specifies how the lead agency will adhere to all best child welfare practices pursuant to ss. 39.4087, 39.523, 409.1415, and 409.145.
- (c) Provide information to the department which is necessary to meet the requirements for a quality assurance program under subsection (20) $\frac{(19)}{(19)}$ and the child welfare results-oriented accountability system under s. 409.997.
- (d) (b) Provide for tiered interventions and graduated penalties for failure to comply with contract terms or in the event of performance deficiencies. Such interventions and penalties shall include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Enhanced monitoring and reporting.
 - 2. Corrective action plans.
- 3. Requirements to accept technical assistance and consultation from the department under subsection (5) (4).
- 4. Financial penalties, which shall require a lead agency to reallocate funds from administrative costs to direct care for children.

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- 5. Early termination of contracts, as provided in s. 402.1705(3)(f).
- (e) (c) Ensure that the lead agency shall furnish current and accurate information on its activities in all cases in client case records in the state's statewide automated child welfare information system.
- (f) (d) Specify the procedures to be used by the parties to resolve differences in interpreting the contract or to resolve disputes as to the adequacy of the parties' compliance with their respective obligations under the contract.
- (2) The department must adopt written policies and procedures for monitoring the contract for delivery of services by lead agencies which must be posted on the department's website. These policies and procedures must, at a minimum, address the evaluation of fiscal accountability and program operations, including provider achievement of performance standards, provider monitoring of subcontractors, and timely follow-up followup of corrective actions for significant monitoring findings related to providers and subcontractors. These policies and procedures must also include provisions for reducing the duplication of the department's program monitoring activities both internally and with other agencies, to the extent possible. The department's written procedures must ensure that the written findings, conclusions, and recommendations from monitoring the contract for services of lead agencies are communicated to the director of the provider agency and the community alliance as expeditiously as possible.
- (3) The department shall collect and post on its website, and annually update, all of the following information for each



504 lead agency under contract with the department: (a) Current salaries, bonuses, and other compensation paid, 505 506 by position, for any employee who receives a salary from state-507 appropriated funds, including state-appropriated federal funds, 508 whether base pay or base pay combined with any bonus or 509 incentive payments, in excess of 150 percent of the annual 510 salary paid to the secretary of the Department of Children and 511 Families. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "employee" includes, but is not limited to, the chief executive officer, 512 513 chief financial officer, and chief operating officer, or any 514 other executive staff of the community-based care lead agency. 515 (b) All findings of the comprehensive, multi-year review of 516 the revenues, expenditures, and financial position of all lead 517 agencies, which shall cover the most recent two consecutive 518 fiscal years. The review must include a comprehensive system-of-519 care analysis and provide expenditure information related to 520 direct care, administration, and indirect costs. All contracted 521 agencies must develop and maintain a plan to achieve financial 522 viability which shall accompany the department's submission. The 523 findings from this review shall be submitted to the Governor, 524 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1, of each year in addition to being 525 526 posted on the department's internet website. 527 ======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== 528 And the title is amended as follows: Delete lines 32 - 72 529 530 and insert: 531 the department; creating s. 394.90825, F.S.; defining 532 terms; requiring a board member or an officer of a

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managing entity to disclose specified activity that may reasonably be construed as a conflict of interest; creating a rebuttable presumption of a conflict of interest if the activity was acted upon by the board without prior notice; establishing a process for the managing entity's board of directors to address the activity under certain timelines; providing for certain consequences for failure to obtain a board's approval or failure to properly disclose a contract as a conflict of interest; amending s. 409.987, F.S.; requiring the department to develop an alternative plan to contracting with a lead agency in a community under certain circumstances; providing requirements for the alternative plan; defining terms; requiring a board member or an officer of a lead agency to disclose activity that may reasonably be construed as a conflict of interest; creating a rebuttable presumption of a conflict of interest if the activity was acted upon by the board without prior notice; establishing a process for the lead agency's board of directors to address the activity under certain timelines; providing for certain consequences for failure to obtain a board's approval or failure to properly disclose a contract as a conflict of interest; amending s. 409.988, F.S.; deleting a requirement that lead agencies post their current budgets on their websites; requiring a lead agency to demonstrate the ability to adhere to all best child welfare practices; amending s. 409.996,