LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 04/17/2025 House

The Committee on Fiscal Policy (Rouson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (3) and paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section 394.457, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (d) is added to subsection (5) of that section, to read:

394.457 Operation and administration.-

(3) POWER TO CONTRACT. - The department may contract to

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11 provide, and be provided with, services and facilities in order 12 to carry out its responsibilities under this part with the 13 following agencies: public and private hospitals; receiving and 14 treatment facilities; clinics; laboratories; departments, divisions, and other units of state government; the state 15 16 colleges and universities; the community colleges; private 17 colleges and universities; counties, municipalities, and any 18 other governmental unit, including facilities of the United 19 States Government; and any other public or private entity which 20 provides or needs facilities or services. The department shall 21 require any provider directly under contract with the department 22 to use, at a minimum, the most recent version of the Daily 23 Living Activities-20 (DLA-20) functional assessment tool for any 24 patients requiring functional assessment, unless the department specifies in rule the use of a different assessment tool. Baker 25 26 Act funds for community inpatient, crisis stabilization, short-27 term residential treatment, and screening services must be 28 allocated to each county pursuant to the department's funding 29 allocation methodology. Notwithstanding s. 287.057(3)(e), 30 contracts for community-based Baker Act services for inpatient, 31 crisis stabilization, short-term residential treatment, and 32 screening provided under this part, other than those with other 33 units of government, to be provided for the department must be 34 awarded using competitive sealed bids if the county commission 35 of the county receiving the services makes a request to the 36 department's district office by January 15 of the contracting 37 year. The district may not enter into a competitively bid 38 contract under this provision if such action will result in increases of state or local expenditures for Baker Act services 39

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| 40   | within the district. Contracts for these Baker Act services  |
|--|--|
| 41   | using competitive sealed bids are effective for 3 years. The   |
| 42   | department shall adopt rules establishing minimum standards for  |
| 43   | such contracted services and facilities and shall make periodic  |
| 44   | audits and inspections to assure that the contracted services  |
| 45   | are provided and meet the standards of the department.   |
| 46   | (5) RULES.—  |
| 47   | (c) The department shall adopt rules establishing minimum  |
| 48   | standards for services provided by a mental health overlay   |
| 49   | program or a mobile crisis response service. Minimum standards   |
| 50   | for a mobile crisis response service must:   |
| 51   | 1. Include the requirements of the child, adolescent, and  |
| 52   | young adult mobile response teams established under s.   |
| 53   | 394.495(7) and ensure coverage of all counties by these  |
| 54   | specified teams; and   |
|  |  |
| 55   | 2. Specify any training or other requirements applicable to  |
| 55<br>56   | 2. Specify any training or other requirements applicable to<br>a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and  |
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| 56   | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and   |
| 56<br>57   | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such   |
| 56<br>57<br>58   | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and   |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59   | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and<br><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams   |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60                                     | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and<br><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of   |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60<br>61                               | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and<br><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of<br>involuntary commitment under this chapter. The structure must  |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60<br>61<br>62                         | <u>a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and</u><br><u>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such</u><br><u>persons; and</u><br><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of<br>involuntary commitment under this chapter. The structure must<br>require, but need not be limited to, the following:  |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60<br>61<br>62<br>63                   | <pre>a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br/>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br/>persons; and<br/><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br/>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of<br/>involuntary commitment under this chapter. The structure must<br/>require, but need not be limited to, the following:<br/>a. Triage and rapid crisis intervention within 60 minutes;</pre>   |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60<br>61<br>62<br>63<br>64             | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and<br><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of<br>involuntary commitment under this chapter. The structure must<br>require, but need not be limited to, the following:<br>a. Triage and rapid crisis intervention within 60 minutes;<br>b. Provision of and referral to evidence-based services  |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60<br>61<br>62<br>63<br>64<br>65       | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and<br><u>3.2.</u> Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of<br>involuntary commitment under this chapter. The structure must<br>require, but need not be limited to, the following:<br>a. Triage and rapid crisis intervention within 60 minutes;<br>b. Provision of and referral to evidence-based services<br>that are responsive to the needs of the individual and the                          |
| 56<br>57<br>58<br>59<br>60<br>61<br>62<br>63<br>64<br>65<br>66 | a mobile crisis response service available to persons age 65 and<br>over to enable the service to meet the specialized needs of such<br>persons; and<br><u>3.2</u> . Create a structure for general mobile response teams<br>which focuses on crisis diversion and the reduction of<br>involuntary commitment under this chapter. The structure must<br>require, but need not be limited to, the following:<br>a. Triage and rapid crisis intervention within 60 minutes;<br>b. Provision of and referral to evidence-based services<br>that are responsive to the needs of the individual and the<br>individual's family; |



| 69 | d. Confirmation that the individual who received the mobile              |
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| 70 | crisis response was connected to a service provider and                  |
| 71 | prescribed medications, if needed.                                       |
| 72 | Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section                    |
| 73 | 394.459, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:                           |
| 74 | 394.459 Rights of patients   |
| 75 | (2) RIGHT TO TREATMENT   |
| 76 | (e) Not more than 5 days after admission to a facility,                  |
| 77 | each patient <u>must</u> shall have and receive an individualized        |
| 78 | treatment plan in writing which the patient has had an                   |
| 79 | opportunity to assist in preparing and to review before prior to         |
| 80 | its implementation. The plan <u>must</u> shall include a space for the   |
| 81 | patient's comments. Facilities shall update the treatment plan,          |
| 82 | including, but not limited to, the physician summary, at least           |
| 83 | every 30 days during the time a patient is in a receiving or             |
| 84 | treatment facility, except a patient retained for longer than 24         |
| 85 | months shall have updates to his or her treatment plan at least          |
| 86 | every 60 days.   |
| 87 | Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 394.468, Florida                    |
| 88 | Statutes, is amended to read:  |
| 89 | 394.468 Admission and discharge procedures                               |
| 90 | (2) Discharge planning and procedures for any patient's                  |
| 91 | release from a receiving facility or treatment facility must             |
| 92 | include and document the patient's needs, and actions to address         |
| 93 | such needs, for, at a minimum:   |
| 94 | (a) <u>Followup</u> <del>Follow-up</del> behavioral health appointments; |
| 95 | (b) Information on how to obtain prescribed medications <u>,</u>         |
| 96 | including, but not limited to, administration of long-acting             |
| 97 | injectable medications. The discharge plan must address any              |
|    |  |

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|   | barriers faced by the patient to accessing long-acting                  |
|---|---|
|   | injectable medications after discharge if such medication is            |
|   | part of the patient's plan; and   |
|   | (c) Information pertaining to:  |
|   | 1. Available living arrangements;                                       |
|   | 2. Transportation; and  |
|   | (d) Referral to:  |
|   | 1. Care coordination services. The patient must be referred             |
|   | for care coordination services if the patient meets the criteria        |
|   | as a member of a priority population as determined by the               |
|   | department under s. 394.9082(3)(c) and is in need of such               |
|   | services.   |
|   | 2. Recovery support opportunities under s. 394.4573(2)(1),              |
|   | including, but not limited to, connection to a peer specialist <u>;</u> |
|   | and   |
|   | (e) Administration of long-acting injectable medication                 |
|   | before discharge if such medication is available to treat the           |
|   | patient's diagnosed behavioral health condition and is                  |
|   | clinically appropriate for the patient.                                 |
|   | Section 4. Subsections (2) and (5) of section 394.495,                  |
|   | Florida Statutes, are amended to read:                                  |
|   | 394.495 Child and adolescent mental health system of care;              |
|   | programs and services   |
|   | (2) The array of services must include assessment services              |
|   | that provide a professional interpretation of the nature of the         |
|   | problems of the child or adolescent and his or her family;              |
|   | family issues that may impact the problems; additional factors          |
| l | that contribute to the problems; and the assets, strengths, and         |
|   | resources of the child or adolescent and his or her family. The         |
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| 127 | assessment services to be provided must shall be determined by   |
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| 128 | the clinical needs of each child or adolescent. Assessment tools |
| 129 | used must, at a minimum, include the use of the most recent      |
| 130 | version of the Daily Living Activities-20 (DLA-20) functional    |
| 131 | assessment tool, unless the department specifies in rule the use |
| 132 | of a different assessment tool. Assessment services include, but |
| 133 | are not limited to, evaluation and screening in the following    |
| 134 | areas:   |
| 135 | (a) Physical and mental health for purposes of identifying       |
| 136 | medical and psychiatric problems.                                |
| 137 | (b) Psychological functioning, as determined through a           |
| 138 | battery of psychological tests.                                  |
| 139 | (c) Intelligence and academic achievement.                       |
| 140 | (d) Social and behavioral functioning.                           |
| 141 | (e) Family functioning.  |
| 142 |  |
| 143 | The assessment for academic achievement is the financial         |
| 144 | responsibility of the school district. The department shall      |
| 145 | cooperate with other state agencies and the school district to   |
| 146 | avoid duplicating assessment services.                           |
| 147 | (5) In order to enhance collaboration between agencies and       |
| 148 | to facilitate the provision of services by the child and         |
| 149 | adolescent mental health treatment and support system and the    |
| 150 | school district $:_{	au}$  |
| 151 | (a) The local child and adolescent mental health system of       |
| 152 | care shall include the local educational multiagency network for |
| 153 | severely emotionally disturbed students specified in s. 1006.04. |
| 154 | (b) The department, in consultation with the Department of       |
| 155 | Education, shall biennially review school-based behavioral       |
|     |  |



156 health access in the state through telehealth, with an emphasis on underserved and rural communities. The review shall, at a 157 minimum, assess gaps in the provision of school-based behavioral 158 159 health services, the extent of use of telehealth for school-160 based behavioral health services, barriers to use and expansion 161 of such telehealth services, and recommendations to address barriers and any implementation requirements. The review shall 162 163 also identify any new models for increasing school-based 164 behavioral health access. The Department of Children and 165 Families shall submit to the Governor, the President of the 166 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives its 167 findings by January 1, beginning in 2026. This subsection 168 expires June 30, 2030, unless reenacted by the Legislature. 169 Section 5. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 170 394.659, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 394.659 Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance 171 Abuse Technical Assistance Center.-172 173 (1) There is created a Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and 174 Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center at the Louis de la 175 Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at the University of South 176 Florida, which shall: 177 (d) Disseminate and share evidence-based practices and best 178 practices among grantees, including, but not limited to, the use 179 of person-first language and trauma-responsive care, to improve 180 patient experiences and outcomes of individuals with behavioral

181 health conditions and encourage cooperative engagement with such

182 individuals. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "person-

183 first language" means language used which emphasizes the

184 individual as a person rather than the individual's disability,



185 illness, or condition. Section 6. Subsection (11) is added to section 394.875, 186 187 Florida Statutes, and paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and 188 paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of that section are republished, 189 to read: 190 394.875 Crisis stabilization units, residential treatment 191 facilities, and residential treatment centers for children and 192 adolescents; authorized services; license required.-193 (1)194 (c) The purpose of a residential treatment center for 195 children and adolescents is to provide mental health assessment 196 and treatment services pursuant to ss. 394.491, 394.495, and 197 394.496 to children and adolescents who meet the target 198 population criteria specified in s. 394.493(1)(a), (b), or (c). 199 (8) (a) The department, in consultation with the agency, 200 must adopt rules governing a residential treatment center for 201 children and adolescents which specify licensure standards for: 202 admission; length of stay; program and staffing; discharge and discharge planning; treatment planning; seclusion, restraints, 203 204 and time-out; rights of patients under s. 394.459; use of 205 psychotropic medications; and standards for the operation of 206 such centers. 207 (11) The department, in consultation with the agency, shall 208 biennially conduct a review to identify the need for new short-209 term residential treatment facilities and additional beds in 210 existing short-term residential treatment facilities. If 211 additional funding is necessary to address such need, the 212 department shall submit a legislative budget request for such 213 funding. If the department can address the need within existing

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214 resources, the department shall take action to do so. 215 Section 7. Paragraphs (v) and (w) are added to subsection 216 (5) of section 394.9082, Florida Statutes, to read: 217 394.9082 Behavioral health managing entities.-218 (5) MANAGING ENTITY DUTIES.-A managing entity shall: 219 (v) Promote the use of person-first language and trauma-220 informed responsive care among providers, peer organizations, 221 and family members, including, but not limited to, through 2.2.2 training and sharing best practices. For purposes of this 223 paragraph, the term "person-first language" means language used 224 which emphasizes the patient as a person rather than that 225 patient's disability, illness, or condition. 226 (w) Require use of the most recent version of the Daily 227 Living Activities-20 (DLA-20) functional assessment tool by all 228 providers under contract with the managing entity, unless the 229 department specifies in rule the use of a different assessment 230 tool. 231 Section 8. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (1) of 232 section 1004.44, paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of that section 233 is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to 234 read: 235 1004.44 Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute.-236 There is established the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health 2.37 Institute within the University of South Florida. 238 (1) The purpose of the institute is to strengthen mental 239 health services throughout the state by providing technical 240 assistance and support services to mental health agencies and 241 mental health professionals. Such assistance and services shall include: 242

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243 Submission of a report analyzing substance abuse and (h) mental health services provided in the state through publicly 244 funded programs, including Medicare. The review shall, at a 245 246 minimum, identify services covered by such programs, assess 247 quality of care and cost management, and identify services for 248 which additional providers are needed in the state. The 249 institute shall submit the report to the Governor, President of 250 the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives by June 2.51 30, 2026.

252 (6) (a) There is established within the institute the 253 Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce. The purpose of 254 the center is to support an adequate, highly skilled, resilient, 255 and innovative workforce that meets the current and future human 256 resources needs of the state's behavioral health system in order 257 to provide high-quality care, services, and supports to 258 Floridians with, or at risk of developing, behavioral health 259 conditions through original research, policy analysis, 260 evaluation, and development and dissemination of best practices. The goals of the center are, at a minimum, to research the 261 262 state's current behavioral health workforce and future needs; 263 expand the number of clinicians, professionals, and other 264 workers involved in the behavioral health workforce; and enhance 265 the skill level and innovativeness of the workforce. The center shall, at a minimum, do all of the following: 266

Describe and analyze the current workforce and project
 possible future workforce demand, especially in critical roles,
 and develop strategies for addressing any gaps. The center's
 efforts may include, but need not be limited to, producing a
 statistically valid biennial analysis of the supply and demand

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272 of the behavioral health workforce.

2. Expand pathways to behavioral health professions through enhanced educational opportunities and improved faculty development and retention. The center's efforts may include, but need not be limited to:

a. Identifying best practices in the academic preparation and continuing education of behavioral health professionals.

b. Facilitating and coordinating the development of academic-practice partnerships that support behavioral health faculty employment and advancement.

c. Developing and implementing innovative projects to support the recruitment, development, and retention of behavioral health educators, faculty, and clinical preceptors.

d. Developing distance learning infrastructure for behavioral health education and the evidence-based use of technology, simulation, and distance learning techniques.

3. Promote behavioral health professions. The center's efforts may include, but need not be limited to:

a. Conducting original research on the factors affecting recruitment, retention, and advancement of the behavioral health workforce, such as designing and implementing a longitudinal study of the state's behavioral health workforce.

b. Developing and implementing innovative projects to support the recruitment, development, and retention of behavioral health workers, including, but not limited to, projects to provide additional stipends, compensation, and financial support for clinical supervisors, workers, interns, and students currently working in the behavioral health field.
<u>4. Request from the Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage</u>

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301 and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling, and the board 302 must provide to the center upon its request, any information 303 held by the board regarding the clinical social work, marriage 304 and family therapy, and mental health counselors licensed in 305 this state or information reported to the board by employers of 306 such counselors, other than personal identifying information. 307 (8) (a) There is created within the institute the Center for 308 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Research. The purpose of the center is to conduct rigorous and relevant research intended to 309 310 develop knowledge and practice in prevention and intervention 311 for substance abuse and mental health issues, to serve the 312 people and economy in this state in reducing the gap between 313 population needs and the availability of effective treatments 314 and other interventions to improve the capacity of the state to 315 have healthy, resilient communities prevailing over substance 316 abuse, addiction, and mental health challenges. 317 (b) The goals of the center are, at a minimum, to advance 318 the scientific understanding of the relationship between 319 substance abuse and mental health issues, to improve treatment 320 outcomes, and to reduce the societal impact and burden of 321 substance abuse and mental health conditions. The center shall, 322 at a minimum, do all of the following: 323 1. Analyze publicly funded substance abuse and mental 324 health services to identify gaps in insurance coverage, monitor 325 quality of care and cost management, and enhance provider 326 networks by identifying gaps in service provision by type and 327 geographic location. 328 2. Research and study the complex relationship between 329 substance abuse and mental health disorders, including analyzing

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330 how substances may contribute to the onset of mental health 331 conditions, how those conditions can lead to substance abuse, 332 and how both can interact to create and worsen negative 333 outcomes, such as violence, infectious disease, suicide, and 334 overdose. The center must also study the range, distribution, 335 and concentration of such negative outcomes. 336 3. Develop and test strategies to prevent the development 337 of both substance use and mental health disorders, including early risk factor identification and interventions designed for 338 339 at-risk populations, specifically in rural settings, where 340 resources may be limited and integrated care is essential. 341 4. Conduct research on alternative, low-cost strategies for 342 prevention and early intervention. 343 5. Conduct outcomes and implementation research on 344 optimizing application of technology for efficient and effective 345 dissemination of evidence-based treatment across this state, 346 with specific attention to rural and other low-resource areas, 347 using telehealth, mobile device remote monitoring, delivery of 348 patient-specific prompts via technology platforms for self-349 management, and other aspects of care. 350 6. Investigate and improve treatment options for 351 individuals suffering from co-occurring substance use and mental 352 health disorders, including developing integrated treatment 353 programs that address both issues simultaneously. 354 7. Generate evidence-based data to inform public policy and 355 promote substance use disorder services and mental health 356 disorder services. 357 8. Develop community-based sharing agreements, local 358 infrastructure, and methodologies to encourage data-informed

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| 359 | decisionmaking to encourage economic efficiency and targeted     |
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| 360 | service delivery.  |
| 361 | 9. Develop and provide training for health care                  |
| 362 | professionals, social workers, counselors, and researchers on    |
| 363 | the latest findings related to substance abuse and mental        |
| 364 | health, fostering a workforce capable of providing effective     |
| 365 | care.  |
| 366 | 10. Articulate methods to align and adapt training               |
| 367 | approaches for delivering evidence-based practices to locally    |
| 368 | identified needs, including implementing evidence-based training |
| 369 | and tools at community health centers to improve identification  |
| 370 | of mental health and substance use disorders and create plans    |
| 371 | for referral and continuity of care.                             |
| 372 | 11. Collaborate with community organizations to offer            |
| 373 | resources and education about substance use and mental health to |
| 374 | reduce stigma and raise awareness.                               |
| 375 | (c) By July 1 of each year, the center shall submit a            |
| 376 | report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the     |
| 377 | Speaker of the House of Representatives providing details of its |
| 378 | activities during the preceding calendar year in pursuit of its  |
| 379 | goals and in the execution of its duties under paragraph (b).    |
| 380 | Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 1006.041, Florida           |
| 381 | Statutes, is amended to read:                                    |
| 382 | 1006.041 Mental health assistance programEach school             |
| 383 | district must implement a school-based mental health assistance  |
| 384 | program that includes training classroom teachers and other      |
| 385 | school staff in detecting and responding to mental health issues |
| 386 | and connecting children, youth, and families who may experience  |
| 387 | behavioral health issues with appropriate services.              |

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388 (2) A plan required under subsection (1) must be focused on 389 a multitiered system of supports to deliver evidence-based 390 mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention, 391 treatment, and recovery services to students with one or more 392 mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to 393 students at high risk of such diagnoses. Assessment procedures must, at a minimum, include the use of the most recent version 394 395 of the Daily Living Activities-20 (DLA-20) functional assessment 396 tool, unless the department specifies in rule the use of a 397 different assessment tool. The department shall consult with the 398 Department of Children and Families before adopting rules 399 regarding use of a different assessment tool. The provision of 400 these services must be coordinated with a student's primary 401 mental health care provider and with other mental health 402 providers involved in the student's care. At a minimum, the plan 403 must include all of the following components:

404 (a) Direct employment of school-based mental health 405 services providers to expand and enhance school-based student services and to reduce the ratio of students to staff in order 406 407 to better align with nationally recommended ratio models. The 408 providers shall include, but are not limited to, certified 409 school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, 410 and other licensed mental health professionals. The plan must 411 also identify strategies to increase the amount of time that 412 school-based student services personnel spend providing direct 413 services to students, which may include the review and revision 414 of district staffing resource allocations based on school or 415 student mental health assistance needs.

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(b) Contracts or interagency agreements with one or more



417 local community behavioral health providers or providers of 418 Community Action Team services to provide a behavioral health staff presence and services at district schools. Services may 419 420 include, but are not limited to, mental health screenings and 421 assessments, individual counseling, family counseling, group 422 counseling, psychiatric or psychological services, trauma-423 informed care, mobile crisis services, and behavior 424 modification. These behavioral health services may be provided 425 on or off the school campus and may be supplemented by 426 telehealth as defined in s. 456.47(1).

427 (c) Policies and procedures, including contracts with428 service providers, which will ensure that:

429 1. Students referred to a school-based or community-based 430 mental health service provider for mental health screening for 431 the identification of mental health concerns and students at 432 risk for mental health disorders are assessed within 15 days after referral. School-based mental health services must be 433 434 initiated within 15 days after identification and assessment, 435 and support by community-based mental health service providers 436 for students who are referred for community-based mental health 437 services must be initiated within 30 days after the school or 438 district makes a referral.

439 2. Parents of a student receiving services under this 440 subsection are provided information about other behavioral 441 health services available through the student's school or local 442 community-based behavioral health services providers. A school 443 may meet this requirement by providing information about and 444 Internet addresses for web-based directories or guides for local 445 behavioral health services.

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446 3. Individuals living in a household with a student 447 receiving services under this subsection are provided 448 information about behavioral health services available through 449 other delivery systems or payors for which such individuals may 450 qualify, if such services appear to be needed or enhancements in 451 such individuals' behavioral health would contribute to the 452 improved well-being of the student.

(d) Strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of atrisk students developing social, emotional, or behavioral health problems; depression; anxiety disorders; suicidal tendencies; or substance use disorders.

(e) Strategies to improve the early identification of social, emotional, or behavioral problems or substance use disorders; to improve the provision of early intervention services; and to assist students in dealing with trauma and violence.

462 (f) Procedures to assist a mental health services provider 463 or a behavioral health provider as described in paragraph (a) or 464 paragraph (b), respectively, or a school resource officer or 465 school safety officer who has completed mental health crisis 466 intervention training in attempting to verbally de-escalate a 467 student's crisis situation before initiating an involuntary 468 examination pursuant to s. 394.463. Such procedures must include 469 strategies to de-escalate a crisis situation for a student with 470 a developmental disability as defined in s. 393.063.

(g) Policies of the school district which must require that
in a student crisis situation, school or law enforcement
personnel must make a reasonable attempt to contact a mental
health professional who may initiate an involuntary examination

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475 pursuant to s. 394.463, unless the child poses an imminent 476 danger to themselves or others, before initiating an involuntary 477 examination pursuant to s. 394.463. Such contact may be in 478 person or through telehealth. The mental health professional may be available to the school district either by a contract or 479 interagency agreement with the managing entity, one or more 480 481 local community-based behavioral health providers, or the local 482 mobile response team, or be a direct or contracted school 483 district employee. 484 Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 485 made by this act to section 394.468, Florida Statutes, in a 486 reference thereto, paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section

394.463, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

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394.463 Involuntary examination.-

(2) INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATION.-

(g) The examination period must be for up to 72 hours and begins when a patient arrives at the receiving facility. For a minor, the examination shall be initiated within 12 hours after the patient's arrival at the facility. Within the examination period, one of the following actions must be taken, based on the individual needs of the patient:

496 1. The patient shall be released, unless he or she is 497 charged with a crime, in which case the patient shall be 498 returned to the custody of a law enforcement officer;

499 2. The patient shall be released, subject to subparagraph500 1., for voluntary outpatient treatment;

501 3. The patient, unless he or she is charged with a crime, 502 shall be asked to give express and informed consent to placement 503 as a voluntary patient and, if such consent is given, the



504 patient shall be admitted as a voluntary patient; or

505 4. A petition for involuntary services shall be filed in 506 the circuit court or with the county court, as applicable. When 507 inpatient treatment is deemed necessary, the least restrictive 508 treatment consistent with the optimum improvement of the 509 patient's condition shall be made available. The petition shall 510 be filed by one of the petitioners specified in s. 394.467, and 511 the court shall dismiss an untimely filed petition. If a patient's 72-hour examination period ends on a weekend or 512 holiday, including the hours before the ordinary business hours 513 514 on the morning of the next working day, and the receiving 515 facility:

a. Intends to file a petition for involuntary services, such patient may be held at the facility through the next working day thereafter and the petition must be filed no later than such date. If the facility fails to file the petition by the ordinary close of business on the next working day, the patient shall be released from the receiving facility following approval pursuant to paragraph (f).

523 b. Does not intend to file a petition for involuntary 524 services, the receiving facility may postpone release of a 525 patient until the next working day thereafter only if a 526 qualified professional documents that adequate discharge 527 planning and procedures in accordance with s. 394.468, and 528 approval pursuant to paragraph (f), are not possible until the 529 next working day.

530 Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 531 made by this act to section 394.495, Florida Statutes, in 532 references thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and



533 subsection (6) of section 394.4955, Florida Statutes, are 534 reenacted to read:

535 394.4955 Coordinated system of care; child and adolescent mental health treatment and support.-

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(c) To the extent permitted by available resources, the coordinated system of care shall include the array of services listed in s. 394.495.

(6) The managing entity shall identify gaps in the arrays of services for children and adolescents listed in s. 394.495 available under each plan and include relevant information in its annual needs assessment required by s. 394.9082.

Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 1004.44, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (7) of section 1001.212, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1001.212 Office of Safe Schools.-There is created in the Department of Education the Office of Safe Schools. The office is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education. The office shall serve as a central repository for best practices, training standards, and compliance oversight in all matters regarding school safety and security, including prevention efforts, intervention efforts, and emergency preparedness planning. The office shall:

557 (7) Provide data to support the evaluation of mental health 558 services pursuant to s. 1004.44. Such data must include, for 559 each school, the number of involuntary examinations as defined 560 in s. 394.455 which are initiated at the school, on school transportation, or at a school-sponsored activity and the number 561

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| 562 | of children for whom an examination is initiated.                         |
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| 563 | Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.                      |
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| 565 | =========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ================================= |
| 566 | And the title is amended as follows:                                      |
| 567 | Delete everything before the enacting clause                              |
| 568 | and insert:   |
| 569 | A bill to be entitled   |
| 570 | An act relating to mental health and substance use                        |
| 571 | disorders; amending s. 394.457, F.S.; requiring the                       |
| 572 | Department of Children and Families to require certain                    |
| 573 | providers to use a specified assessment tool; revising                    |
| 574 | the minimum standards for a mobile crisis response                        |
| 575 | service; amending s. 394.459, F.S.; requiring                             |
| 576 | facilities to update treatment plans within specified                     |
| 577 | timeframes; amending s. 394.468, F.S.; revising                           |
| 578 | requirements for discharge planning regarding                             |
| 579 | medications; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; requiring use                     |
| 580 | of a specified assessment tool; providing an                              |
| 581 | exception; requiring the Department of Children and                       |
| 582 | Families, in consultation with the Department of                          |
| 583 | Education, to conduct a review biennially of school-                      |
| 584 | based behavioral health access through telehealth;                        |
| 585 | providing requirements for review; requiring the                          |
| 586 | Department of Children and Families to submit to the                      |
| 587 | Governor and the Legislature its findings by a                            |
| 588 | specified date; providing for expiration of the                           |
| 589 | review; amending s. 394.659, F.S.; requiring the                          |
| 590 | Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse                      |
|     |   |



591 Technical Assistance Center at the Louis de la Parte 592 Florida Mental Health Institute at the University of 593 South Florida to disseminate among grantees certain 594 evidence-based practices and best practices; defining 595 the term "person-first language"; amending s. 394.875, 596 F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and 597 Families, in consultation with the Agency for Health 598 Care Administration, to conduct a review biennially to 599 identify needs regarding short-term residential 600 treatment facilities and beds; specifying actions the 601 department must take under certain conditions; 602 amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; requiring managing 603 entities to promote use of person-first language and 604 trauma-informed care and require use of a specified 605 assessment tool; amending s. 1004.44, F.S.; revising 606 the assistance and services the Louis de la Parte 607 Florida Mental Health Institute is required to 608 provide; revising the requirements of the Florida 609 Center for Behavioral Health Workforce to promote 610 behavioral health professions; creating the Center for 611 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Research within the 612 institute; specifying the purpose of the center; 613 specifying the goals of the center; specifying the responsibilities of the center; requiring the center 614 615 to submit a report by a specified date each year to 616 the Governor and the Legislature; specifying the 617 contents of the report; amending s. 1006.041, F.S.; revising the plan components for mental health 618 assistance programs; reenacting s. 394.463(2)(g), 619

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| 620 | F.S., relating to involuntary examination, to          |
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| 621 | incorporate the amendment made to s. 394.468, F.S., in |
| 622 | a reference thereto; reenacting s. 394.4955(2)(c) and  |
| 623 | (6), F.S., relating to coordinated system of care and  |
| 624 | child and adolescent mental health treatment and       |
| 625 | support, to incorporate the amendment made to s.       |
| 626 | 394.495, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting s.    |
| 627 | 1001.212(7), F.S., relating to the Office of Safe      |
| 628 | Schools, to incorporate the amendment made to s.       |
| 629 | 1004.44, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an    |
| 630 | effective date.  |
|     |  |