

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to pediatric behavioral and mental
3 health screenings; creating s. 409.9746, F.S.;
4 requiring the agency to adopt rules establishing
5 certain practice parameters and protocols for the
6 provision of early periodic screening, diagnostic, and
7 treatment services for certain persons; requiring the
8 Department of Health to provide a parent or legal
9 guardian information on sleep, screen time, and
10 nutrition and make such information available for
11 download; requiring the agency, by a specified date,
12 to adopt measures relating to early periodic
13 screening, diagnostic, and treatment services and
14 collect and report performance measures and outcome
15 data to the Governor and the Legislature; providing an
16 effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 **Section 1. Section 409.9746, Florida Statutes, is created**
21 **to read:**

22 409.9746 Early periodic screening, diagnostic, and
23 treatment services; pediatric behavioral and mental health
24 screenings.—

25 (1) The agency shall adopt rules establishing practice

26 parameters and protocols, and requiring managed care plans to
27 provide services consistent with such practice parameters and
28 protocols, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

29 (a) The use of validated, age-appropriate, trauma-informed
30 diagnostic tools based on nationally recognized clinical
31 practice guidelines to provide early periodic screening,
32 diagnostic, and treatment services to participants from birth
33 through 21 years of age.

34 (b) Authorizing a health care provider to use mobile
35 response teams, community mental health centers, behavioral
36 health hubs, and other qualified health care providers for
37 consultation, support with medication management, and
38 introduction of the patient to another health care provider as a
39 referral.

40 (c) Encouraging parents or legal guardians to participate
41 in mental health programs that provide education and support,
42 including, but not limited to, general parenting skills or more
43 specialized programs that offer education and support for more
44 specific behavioral or mental health issues.

45 (d) Requiring health care providers to give parents or
46 legal guardians information created by the Department of Health
47 about sleep, screen time, and nutrition. The department shall
48 develop such information and make it available for download by
49 health care providers.

50 (2) By January 1, 2027, the agency shall adopt performance

51 measures related to early periodic screening, diagnostic, and
52 treatment services and establish outcome data reporting
53 requirements. The agency shall use the measures as a tool to
54 monitor plan performance in connection with other measures
55 required pursuant to this part. Beginning January 1, 2028, the
56 agency shall submit an annual report on the performance measures
57 and outcome data to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
58 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

59 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.