

By Senator Bernard

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to family court report cards; creating s. 25.396, F.S.; requiring the Office of the State Courts Administrator to prepare and publish on its website an annual family court report card for each family court judge in each judicial circuit; providing a purpose for the report card; requiring that the report card include specified information; requiring the office to maintain a publicly accessible online database of the report cards and to submit an annual summary to the Legislature; prohibiting the report cards from containing certain personal identifying information; authorizing the Supreme Court to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 25.396, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

25.396 Family court report cards.-

(1) ANNUAL PUBLICATION.-Beginning July 1, 2027, and annually each July 1 thereafter, the Office of the State Courts Administrator shall prepare and publish on its website an annual family court report card for each individual family court judge in each judicial circuit.

(2) PURPOSE.-The report card is intended to promote transparency, accountability, and public confidence in the family law system by providing standardized performance metrics regarding case management, timeliness, and outcomes.

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30 (3) METRICS.—At a minimum, each report card must include
31 all of the following:

32 (a) The average time to final judgment in dissolution and
33 time-sharing cases.

34 (b) The percentage of cases resolved through mediation or
35 settlement.

36 (c) The number and percentage of cases requiring court-
37 appointed psychological evaluations.

38 (d) The average cost to parties for court-appointed
39 professionals, if such data is available.

40 (e) The rate of post-judgment modifications within 3 years
41 after entry of final judgment.

42 (f) Compliance rate with statutory timeframes for rulings
43 on motions and reports.

44 (g) The aggregate reversal rate on appeal in family law
45 cases.

46 (4) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The Office of the State Courts
47 Administrator shall maintain a publicly accessible, searchable,
48 online database of report cards and submit an annual summary to
49 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
50 Representatives.

51 (5) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—Report cards may not contain
52 personal identifying information about litigants or minor
53 children.

54 (6) RULEMAKING.—The Supreme Court may adopt rules to
55 implement this section, including data collection and reporting
56 standards.

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