

CHAPTER 2025-186

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 7012

An act relating to child welfare; amending s. 39.524, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families to maintain copies of certain assessments and tools used to assess children for certain placement; requiring the department to maintain certain data in a specified format; amending s. 39.905, F.S.; authorizing the department to waive a specified requirement if there is an emergency need for a new domestic violence center; authorizing the department to issue a provisional certificate under certain circumstances; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending ss. 402.305 and 409.175, F.S.; removing authority for the department to grant exemptions from working with children or the developmentally disabled; authorizing the department to grant limited exemptions to certain minimum standards and requirements, respectively; amending s. 402.402, F.S.; subject to an appropriation, requiring the department to develop a child protective investigator and case manager recruitment program for a specified purpose; specifying requirements for the program; specifying duties of the department under the program, to be completed in collaboration with community-based care lead agencies; authorizing the department to adopt rules to implement the program; amending s. 409.987, F.S.; removing the requirement that an entity post a specified fidelity bond in order to serve as a lead agency; amending s. 409.993, F.S.; providing immunity from liability for subcontractors of lead agencies for certain acts or omissions; providing applicability; amending s. 409.996, F.S.; subject to an appropriation and beginning on a specified date, requiring the department to develop a 4-year pilot program for treatment foster care; requiring the department to implement the pilot program by a specified date; requiring the department to coordinate with community-based care lead agencies to develop a specified process; requiring community-based care lead agencies to recruit individuals and families for a certain purpose; limiting participation in the pilot program to children meeting specified criteria; requiring the department to identify two judicial circuits determined to have the greatest need for implementation of such pilot program; requiring the department to arrange for an independent evaluation of the pilot program to make specified determinations; requiring the department to establish certain minimum standards for the pilot program; requiring the department, by a specified date, to submit to the Governor and the Legislature a final report which includes specified evaluations, findings, and recommendations; amending s. 1004.615, F.S.; specifying that incentives provided to state employees for participating in research or evaluation with the Florida Institute for Child Welfare do not violate certain laws or require certain reporting; amending ss. 402.30501, 1002.57, and 1002.59, F.S.; conforming cross-references; requiring the department to convene a case management workforce workgroup by a specified date; providing for membership of the workgroup; specifying duties of the workgroup, to be

completed in collaboration with the Florida Institute for Child Welfare; providing for meetings of the workgroup; providing for the operation of the workgroup until a specified date; requiring the workgroup to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; providing requirements for the report; requiring the department to contract for a detailed study of certain services for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation; requiring that the study be completed by a specified date; providing requirements for the study; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 39.524, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.524 Safe-harbor placement.—

(3)(a) By October 1 of each year, the department, with information from community-based care agencies, shall report to the Legislature on the prevalence of ~~child commercial sexual exploitation of children~~; the specialized services provided and placement of such children; the local service capacity assessed pursuant to s. 409.1754; the placement of children in safe houses and safe foster homes during the year, including the criteria used to determine the placement of children; the number of children who were evaluated for placement; the number of children who were placed based upon the evaluation; the number of children who were not placed; and the department's response to the findings and recommendations made by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in its annual study on commercial sexual exploitation of children, as required by s. 409.16791; and must also maintain a copy of any paper-based assessments or tools used to assess a child for such placement, to be provided upon request of the Legislature.

(b) The department shall maintain individual-level data of all children assessed for placement in a safe house or safe foster home and use this data to produce information that specifies specifying the number of children who were verified as victims of commercial sexual exploitation, who were referred to nonresidential services in the community, who were placed in a safe house or safe foster home, and who were referred to a safe house or safe foster home for whom placement was unavailable, and shall identify the counties in which such placement was unavailable. The department shall include this data in its report under this subsection so that the Legislature may consider this information in developing the General Appropriations Act. The department shall maintain collected individual-level data in a format that allows for extraction and analysis of anonymized individual-level and aggregate data upon request by the Legislature.

Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 39.905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.905 Domestic violence centers.—

(1) Domestic violence centers certified under this part must:

(h) Demonstrate local need and ability to sustain operations through a history of 18 consecutive months' operation as a domestic violence center, including 12 months' operation of an emergency shelter as provided in paragraph (c), and a business plan which addresses future operations and funding of future operations. The department may waive this requirement if there is an emergency need for a new domestic violence center to provide services in an area and no other viable options exist to ensure continuity of services. If there is an emergency need, the department may issue a provisional certificate to the domestic violence center as long as the center meets all other criteria in this subsection. The department may adopt rules to provide minimum standards for a provisional certificate, including increased monitoring and site visits and the time period such certificate is valid.

Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 402.305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

(2) PERSONNEL.—Minimum standards for child care personnel shall include minimum requirements as to:

(a) Good moral character based upon screening as defined in s. 402.302(15). This screening shall be conducted as provided in chapter 435, using the level 2 standards for screening set forth in that chapter, and include employment history checks, a search of criminal history records, sexual predator and sexual offender registries, and child abuse and neglect registry of any state in which the current or prospective child care personnel resided during the preceding 5 years.

(b) Fingerprint submission for child care personnel, which shall comply with s. 435.12.

~~(c) The department may grant exemptions from disqualification from working with children or the developmentally disabled as provided in s. 435.07.~~

~~(c)(d)~~ Minimum age requirements. Such minimum standards shall prohibit a person under the age of 21 from being the operator of a child care facility and a person under the age of 16 from being employed at such facility unless such person is under direct supervision and is not counted for the purposes of computing the personnel-to-child ratio.

~~(d)(e)~~ Minimum training requirements for child care personnel.

1. Such minimum standards for training shall ensure that all child care personnel take an approved 40-clock-hour introductory course in child care, which course covers at least the following topic areas:

- a. State and local rules and regulations which govern child care.
- b. Health, safety, and nutrition.
- c. Identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect.
- d. Child development, including typical and atypical language, cognitive, motor, social, and self-help skills development.
- e. Observation of developmental behaviors, including using a checklist or other similar observation tools and techniques to determine the child's developmental age level.
- f. Specialized areas, including computer technology for professional and classroom use and early literacy and language development of children from birth to 5 years of age, as determined by the department, for owner-operators and child care personnel of a child care facility.
- g. Developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome, and early identification, use of available state and local resources, classroom integration, and positive behavioral supports for children with developmental disabilities.

Within 90 days after employment, child care personnel shall begin training to meet the training requirements. Child care personnel shall successfully complete such training within 1 year after the date on which the training began, as evidenced by passage of a competency examination. Successful completion of the 40-clock-hour introductory course shall articulate into community college credit in early childhood education, pursuant to ss. 1007.24 and 1007.25. Exemption from all or a portion of the required training shall be granted to child care personnel based upon educational credentials or passage of competency examinations. Child care personnel possessing a 2-year degree or higher that includes 6 college credit hours in early childhood development or child growth and development, or a child development associate credential or an equivalent state-approved child development associate credential, or a child development associate waiver certificate shall be automatically exempted from the training requirements in sub-subparagraphs b., d., and e.

2. The introductory course in child care shall stress, to the extent possible, an interdisciplinary approach to the study of children.

3. The introductory course shall cover recognition and prevention of shaken baby syndrome; prevention of sudden infant death syndrome; recognition and care of infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome; and early childhood brain development within the topic areas identified in this paragraph.

4. On an annual basis in order to further their child care skills and, if appropriate, administrative skills, child care personnel who have fulfilled the requirements for the child care training shall be required to take an

additional 1 continuing education unit of approved inservice training, or 10 clock hours of equivalent training, as determined by the department.

5. Child care personnel shall be required to complete 0.5 continuing education unit of approved training or 5 clock hours of equivalent training, as determined by the department, in early literacy and language development of children from birth to 5 years of age one time. The year that this training is completed, it shall fulfill the 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of the annual training required in subparagraph 4.

6. Procedures for ensuring the training of qualified child care professionals to provide training of child care personnel, including onsite training, shall be included in the minimum standards. It is recommended that the state community child care coordination agencies (central agencies) be contracted by the department to coordinate such training when possible. Other district educational resources, such as community colleges and career programs, can be designated in such areas where central agencies may not exist or are determined not to have the capability to meet the coordination requirements set forth by the department.

7. Training requirements shall not apply to certain occasional or part-time support staff, including, but not limited to, swimming instructors, piano teachers, dance instructors, and gymnastics instructors.

8. The child care operator shall be required to take basic training in serving children with disabilities within 5 years after employment, either as a part of the introductory training or the annual 8 hours of inservice training.

(e)(f) Periodic health examinations.

(f)(g) A credential for child care facility directors. The credential shall be a required minimum standard for licensing.

The department may grant limited exemptions to the minimum standards provided in this subsection which authorize a person to work in a specified role or with a specified population.

Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 402.402, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

402.402 Child protection and child welfare personnel; attorneys employed by the department.—

(4) RECRUITMENT PROGRAM.—Subject to appropriation, the department shall develop and implement a child protective investigator and case manager recruitment program for the purpose of recruiting individuals who have previously held public safety and service positions, such as former law enforcement officers, first responders, military servicemembers, teachers, health care practitioners, and emergency management professionals. This

recruitment program must focus on the education and recruitment of individuals who have held positions of public trust and who wish to further serve their communities as child welfare personnel.

(a) The department, in collaboration with community-based care lead agencies, shall:

1. Develop information pertaining to employment opportunities, application procedures, and training requirements for employment within the child welfare system and distribute such information to individuals who have previously held public safety and service positions.

2. Develop and implement an employment referral system with lead agencies for the case management population.

3. Collect the following information quarterly:

a. The total number of individuals who sought information from the program; were hired by the department as child protective investigators; were referred by the program to a lead agency for case management positions; and, based upon a referral by the program, were hired by the lead agency or contractor as a case manager.

b. The overall turnover rate for child protective investigators and case managers compared to the turnover rate for child protective investigators and case managers hired based upon this program.

(b) The department may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) and paragraph (e) of subsection (14) of section 409.175, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.175 Licensure of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies; public records exemption.—

(5) The department shall adopt and amend rules for the levels of licensed care associated with the licensure of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies. The rules may include criteria to approve waivers to licensing requirements when applying for a child-specific license.

(b) The requirements for licensure and operation of family foster homes, residential child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies shall include:

1. The operation, conduct, and maintenance of these homes and agencies and the responsibility which they assume for children served and the evidence of need for that service.

2. The provision of food, clothing, educational opportunities, services, equipment, and individual supplies to assure the healthy physical, emotional, and mental development of the children served.

3. The appropriateness, safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the premises, including fire prevention and health standards, to provide for the physical comfort, care, and well-being of the children served.

4. The ratio of staff to children required to provide adequate care and supervision of the children served and, in the case of family foster homes, the maximum number of children in the home.

5. The good moral character based upon screening, education, training, and experience requirements for personnel and family foster homes.

~~6. The department may grant exemptions from disqualification from working with children or the developmentally disabled as provided in s. 435.07.~~

~~6.7.~~ The provision of preservice and inservice training for all foster parents and agency staff.

~~7.8.~~ Satisfactory evidence of financial ability to provide care for the children in compliance with licensing requirements.

~~8.9.~~ The maintenance by the agency of records pertaining to admission, progress, health, and discharge of children served, including written case plans and reports to the department.

~~9.10.~~ The provision for parental involvement to encourage preservation and strengthening of a child's relationship with the family.

~~10.11.~~ The transportation safety of children served.

~~11.12.~~ The provisions for safeguarding the cultural, religious, and ethnic values of a child.

~~12.13.~~ Provisions to safeguard the legal rights of children served.

~~13.14.~~ Requiring signs to be conspicuously placed on the premises of facilities maintained by child-caring agencies to warn children of the dangers of human trafficking and to encourage the reporting of individuals observed attempting to engage in human trafficking activity. The signs must advise children to report concerns to the local law enforcement agency or the Department of Law Enforcement, specifying the appropriate telephone numbers used for such reports. The department shall specify, at a minimum, the content of the signs by rule.

The department may grant limited exemptions to the requirements provided in this paragraph which authorize a person to work in a specified role or with a specified population.

(14)

(e)1. In addition to any other preservice training required by law, foster parents, as a condition of licensure, and agency staff must successfully

complete preservice training related to human trafficking which must be uniform statewide and must include, but need not be limited to:

- a. Basic information on human trafficking, such as an understanding of relevant terminology, and the differences between sex trafficking and labor trafficking;
- b. Factors and knowledge on identifying children at risk of human trafficking; and
- c. Steps that should be taken to prevent at-risk youths from becoming victims of human trafficking.

2. Foster parents, before licensure renewal, and agency staff, during each full year of employment, must complete inservice training related to human trafficking to satisfy the training requirement under subparagraph (5)(b)6. ~~(5)(b)7.~~

Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 409.987, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(4) In order to serve as a lead agency, an entity must:

(c) Demonstrate financial responsibility through an organized plan for regular fiscal audits and; the posting of a performance bond; ~~and the posting of a fidelity bond to cover any costs associated with reprocurement and the assessed penalties related to a failure to disclose a conflict of interest under subsection (7).~~

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 409.993, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (c), paragraph (a) is amended, and a new paragraph (b) is added to that subsection, to read:

409.993 Lead agencies and subcontractor liability.—

(3) SUBCONTRACTOR LIABILITY.—

(a) A subcontractor of an eligible community-based care lead agency that is a direct provider of foster care and related services to children and families, and its employees or officers, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) ~~(b)~~, must, as a part of its contract, obtain a minimum of \$1 million per occurrence with a policy period aggregate limit of \$3 million in general liability insurance coverage. The subcontractor of a lead agency must also require that staff who transport client children and families in their personal automobiles in order to carry out their job responsibilities obtain minimum bodily injury liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 per person in any one automobile accident, and subject to such limits for each person, \$300,000 for all damages resulting from any one automobile accident, on their personal automobiles. In lieu of personal motor vehicle

insurance, the subcontractor's casualty, liability, or motor vehicle insurance carrier may provide nonowned automobile liability coverage. This insurance provides liability insurance for automobiles that the subcontractor uses in connection with the subcontractor's business but does not own, lease, rent, or borrow. This coverage includes automobiles owned by the employees of the subcontractor or a member of the employee's household but only while the automobiles are used in connection with the subcontractor's business. The nonowned automobile coverage for the subcontractor applies as excess coverage over any other collectible insurance. The personal automobile policy for the employee of the subcontractor shall be primary insurance, and the nonowned automobile coverage of the subcontractor acts as excess insurance to the primary insurance. The subcontractor shall provide a minimum limit of \$1 million in nonowned automobile coverage. In a tort action brought against such subcontractor or employee, net economic damages shall be limited to \$2 million per liability claim and \$200,000 per automobile claim, including, but not limited to, past and future medical expenses, wage loss, and loss of earning capacity, offset by any collateral source payment paid or payable. In a tort action brought against such subcontractor, noneconomic damages shall be limited to \$400,000 per claim. A claims bill may be brought on behalf of a claimant pursuant to s. 768.28 for any amount exceeding the limits specified in this paragraph. Any offset of collateral source payments made as of the date of the settlement or judgment shall be in accordance with s. 768.76.

(b) A subcontractor of a lead agency that is a direct provider of foster care and related services is not liable for the acts or omissions of the lead agency, the department, or the officers, agents, or employees thereof. The limitation on liability established in this paragraph applies to contracts entered into or renewed after July 1, 2025.

Section 8. Subsection (27) is added to section 409.996, Florida Statutes, 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 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).

(27)(a) Subject to appropriation, beginning July 1, 2025, the department shall develop a 4-year pilot program of treatment foster care or a substantially similar evidence-based program of professional foster care. The department shall implement the pilot program by January 1, 2026.

(b) The department shall implement and operate the pilot program and coordinate with community-based care lead agencies to develop a process for the placement of children in treatment foster care homes and deliver

payment to the licensed providers operating the pilot treatment foster care homes.

(c) Community-based care lead agencies shall work with the department to recruit individuals and families as licensed providers and identify potential eligible children for placement in the pilot treatment foster care homes.

(d) Participation in the pilot program is limited to children who:

1. Are entering or continuing in foster care with high resource indicators, as determined by the department. These high resource indicators may include, but are not limited to, the potential for frequent placement change due to current or past behavior or Department of Juvenile Justice involvement; or

2. Are dependent and will require continued placement in foster care when the children are discharged from inpatient residential treatment.

(e) The department shall identify two judicial circuits within which the pilot program will be implemented. The department shall use relevant removal and placement data to identify areas with the greatest need for such a program.

(f) The department shall arrange for an independent evaluation of the pilot program to determine whether:

1. The pilot program is maintaining children in the least restrictive and most appropriate family-like setting near the child's home while he or she is in department care.

2. There is a long-term cost benefit associated with continuation and expansion of a treatment or professional foster care program.

(g) The department shall establish standards for the pilot program. Those standards must, at a minimum, ensure:

1. That placement of a child in a treatment foster care home is a temporary holistic treatment option and may not exceed 9 months. A one-time 3-month extension may be granted if the department determines that the child is not ready for discharge from a treatment foster care home at 9 months.

2. Development and implementation of specialized training for treatment foster parents in care coordination, de-escalation, crisis management, and other identified relevant skills needed to care for children with high behavioral health needs that cannot be or have not been met in traditional foster care placements.

3. No more than two eligible children are placed at any time in a treatment foster care home.

4. At least one foster parent with specialized training is available and dedicated to the care and treatment of placed children.

5. A 24 hour on-call crisis person is available to provide in-home crisis intervention and placement stabilization services.

(h) By January 1, 2030, the department shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a final report that includes the independent evaluation, the department's findings and evaluation, recommendations as to whether the pilot program should be continued and expanded statewide and, if so, fiscal and policy recommendations to ensure effective expansion and continued operation of the program.

Section 9. Subsection (11) is added to section 1004.615, Florida Statutes, to read:

1004.615 Florida Institute for Child Welfare.—

(11) An incentive provided to state employees for participating in the institute's research or evaluation as required by the institute's statutory mission under this section may not be considered a violation of s. 112.313 or require reporting under s. 112.3148.

Section 10. Section 402.30501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.30501 Modification of introductory child care course for community college credit authorized.—The Department of Children and Families may modify the 40-clock-hour introductory course in child care under s. 402.305 or s. 402.3131 to meet the requirements of articulating the course to community college credit. Any modification must continue to provide that the course satisfies the requirements of s. 402.305(2)(d) ~~s. 402.305(2)(e)~~.

Section 11. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1002.57, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.57 Prekindergarten director credential.—

(3) The prekindergarten director credential must meet or exceed the requirements of the Department of Children and Families for the child care facility director credential under s. 402.305(2)(f) ~~s. 402.305(2)(g)~~, and successful completion of the prekindergarten director credential satisfies these requirements for the child care facility director credential.

(4) The department shall, to the maximum extent practicable, award credit to a person who successfully completes the child care facility director credential under s. 402.305(2)(f) ~~s. 402.305(2)(g)~~ for those requirements of the prekindergarten director credential which are duplicative of requirements for the child care facility director credential.

Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 1002.59, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.59 Emergent literacy and performance standards training courses.

(1) The department, in collaboration with the Just Read, Florida! Office, shall adopt minimum standards for courses in emergent literacy for prekindergarten instructors. Each course must consist of 5 clock hours and provide instruction in strategies and techniques to address the age-appropriate progress of prekindergarten students in developing emergent literacy skills, including oral communication, knowledge of print and letters, phonological and phonemic awareness, vocabulary and comprehension development, and foundational background knowledge designed to correlate with the content that students will encounter in grades K-12, consistent with the evidence-based content and strategies grounded in the science of reading identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(7). The course standards must be reviewed as part of any review of subject coverage or endorsement requirements in the elementary, reading, and exceptional student educational areas conducted pursuant to s. 1012.586. Each course must also provide resources containing strategies that allow students with disabilities and other special needs to derive maximum benefit from the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. Successful completion of an emergent literacy training course approved under this section satisfies requirements for approved training in early literacy and language development under ss. 402.305(2)(d)5. ~~ss. 402.305(2)(e)5.,~~ 402.313(6), and 402.3131(5).

Section 13. (1) Effective upon this act becoming a law, the Department of Children and Families shall convene a case management workforce workgroup by July 1, 2025. The workgroup shall be composed of persons with subject matter expertise in case management and child welfare policy.

(2) The department shall ensure the workgroup has at least two representatives with subject matter expertise in case management from each of the following:

(a) The Department of Children and Families.

(b) Community-based care lead agencies.

(c) Contracted case management organizations.

(3) In collaboration with the Florida Institute for Child Welfare, the workgroup shall do all of the following:

(a) Review and analyze existing statutes, rules, operating procedures, and federal requirements relating to the provision of case management.

(b) Review and analyze legislative changes relating to case management processes during the preceding 10 years and the impact that those changes have had on workload and workforce.

(c) Gather statewide data to assess all of the following:

1. Compliance with statutory requirements.
2. Variations in case management practices.
3. Current workforce capacity.
4. Barriers to successful implementation of any statutes, rules, and operating procedures.

(d) Solicit insight from stakeholders, including frontline workers, supervisors, and administrators, regarding challenges and potential solutions.

(e) Analyze findings of the work conducted under paragraphs (a)-(d) to do all of the following:

1. Identify any needed statutory changes.
2. Evaluate whether the current structure, processes, and requirements of the statutes, rules, and operating procedures are duplicative or unworkable.
3. Evaluate how well case managers are implementing policy.

(f) Develop clear and actionable recommendations to streamline, clarify, standardize, and implement case management processes and practices that address workforce retention and allow for local community innovation.

(4) The workgroup shall meet as often as necessary to carry out these duties and responsibilities and shall operate until December 1, 2025, at which time it shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report that summarizes its work, describes and details its analysis of data, and recommends clear actionable policy.

Section 14. Effective upon this act becoming law, the Department of Children and Families shall contract for a detailed study of bed capacity for residential treatment services and a gap analysis of nonresidential treatment services for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation identified by the child welfare systems of care and those not involved in the child welfare systems of care. The study must include analyses of current capacity, current and projected future demand, and the state's current and projected future ability to meet that demand. The study must be completed by December 31, 2025, and must, at a minimum, include all of the following:

(1) By department region, the current number of residential treatment beds in safe homes for treatment of child victims of commercial sexual exploitation, the number of individuals admitted and discharged annually, the types and frequency of diagnoses, and the lengths of stays.

(2) By department region, the current number of specialized safe therapeutic foster home placements for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation, the number of placements annually, and the lengths of stays.

(3) By department region, an analysis of nonresidential treatment services for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation and the utilization of such services.

(4) Policy recommendations for ensuring sufficient bed capacity for residential treatment beds, ensuring specialized safe therapeutic foster home placements, and enhancing services for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation which could prevent the need for residential treatment beds.

Section 15. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor June 25, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 25, 2025.