



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott
Governor

Mike Carroll
Interim Secretary

DATE: July 11, 2014

TO: Regional Managing Directors, CLS Statewide Director,
Community-Based Care Lead Agency CEOs

FROM: Pete Digre, Deputy Secretary
Janice Thomas, Assistant Secretary for Child Welfare

SUBJECT: 2014 Legislative Changes Updates for Laws of Florida: Chapters 2014-224, 2014-227, 2014-166, 2014-160, 2014-160

INFORMATIONAL MEMO

PURPOSE: On July 1, 2014, several important legislative changes from the 2014 Legislative session came into effect. This memorandum is for information purposes only, and is not a policy memo. The attached newsletters outline the changes that may impact your employees and agencies.

BACKGROUND: Legislators enacted many changes into law across all areas of Child Welfare, Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, and Children's Legal Services to improve the services we offer to children and families in need. The Office of Child Welfare has provided many opportunities to learn about the changes so that you and your staff can be fully informed and ready to implement the new and amended child welfare provisions in Florida Statutes.

NEWSLETTERS: The Office of Child Welfare has built two newsletters to outline many of the new changes and how they may impact you. Please find two newsletters attached to this memo.

WEBINARS: A series of webinars have also been conducted that outline all the changes. These webinars, along with the Frequently Asked Questions and presentations, can be found on the Center for Child Welfare at:
<http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/HorizontalTab/VideoTrainingTopic.shtml>
under the Child Welfare Legislation 2014/2015 Implementation topic.

LAWS OF FLORIDA: The full Laws of Florida may also be accessed via the following link: <http://laws.flrules.org/2014>.

1. Chapter 2014-224 - Child Welfare (SB 1666)

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

2014 Legislative Changes Updates

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2. Chapter 2014-227 - Attorneys for Dependent Children with Special Needs (HB 651)
3. Chapter 2014-166 - Keys to Independence (HB 977)
4. Chapter 2014-160 - Human Trafficking (victim confidentiality) (HB 989)
5. Chapter 2014-161- Human Trafficking (comprehensive) (HB 7141)

ACTION REQUIRED: Please disseminate this memorandum and the attachments to all child welfare staff, Community-Based Care Agencies, Children's Legal Services, and Sheriff's offices conducting child protective investigations.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Please contact JoShonda Guerrier, Implementation Lead, for legislative updates related the 2014 legislative session. JoShonda may be reached at (850) 717-4382 or Joshonda_Guerrier@dcf.state.fl.us.

Attachments

cc: Traci Leavine, Director of Child Welfare Practice
Kellie Sweat Darnell, Director of Child Welfare Operations
Regional Family and Community Services Directors
James Cheatham, Hotline Director
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