

House Bill No. 723

An act relating to foster care services; amending s. 20.19, F.S.; prohibiting certain members of a community alliance from receiving funds from the Department of Children and Family Services or a community-based lead agency; amending s. 409.1671, F.S.; providing additional requirements for an eligible lead community-based provider to compete for a privatization project; requiring contracts with lead community-based providers to include certain standards; revising requirements for the department's quality assurance program for privatized services; directing the Florida Coalition for Children, Inc., to develop a plan for a statewide risk pool for community-based providers that provide foster care and related services under contract with the department or a lead community-based provider; deleting a requirement that the department develop a proposal; specifying the requirements of the plan; extending a submission deadline; revising the process for plan approval; directing the department to issue a loan upon approval of the plan; modifying the purposes of the risk pool; revising the purposes for which funding may be recommended to the Legislature; deleting provisions requiring the creation of a risk pool within the State Treasury; revising the requirements for operating the risk pool; authorizing the risk pool to invest funds and retain interest; providing for payments upon a determination of insolvency; prohibiting payment of dividends until repayment of the loan by the department and until the risk pool is actuarially sound; deleting a requirement for a performance bond; providing for the risk pool to be managed by the Florida Coalition for Children, Inc., or its designated contractor; specifying the manner by which nonmember entities may be authorized to contract with the department; providing an exemption from state travel policies for community-based providers and subcontractors; creating s. 39.0016, F.S., relating to the education of abused, neglected, and abandoned children; creating definitions; providing for interpretation of the act; requiring an agreement between the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Education; requiring agreements between the Department of Children and Family Services and district school boards or other local educational entities; specifying provisions of such agreements; requiring access to certain information; requiring education training components; amending s. 1002.22, F.S., relating to access to student records; authorizing the release of records to the Department of Children and Family Services or a community-based care lead agency; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 20.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.19 Department of Children and Family Services.—There is created a Department of Children and Family Services.

(6) COMMUNITY ALLIANCES.—

(a) The department shall, in consultation with local communities, establish a community alliance of the stakeholders, community leaders, client representatives and funders of human services in each county to provide a focal point for community participation and governance of community-based services. An alliance may cover more than one county when such arrangement is determined to provide for more effective representation. The community alliance shall represent the diversity of the community.

(b) The duties of the community alliance shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. Joint planning for resource utilization in the community, including resources appropriated to the department and any funds that local funding sources choose to provide.

2. Needs assessment and establishment of community priorities for service delivery.

3. Determining community outcome goals to supplement state-required outcomes.

4. Serving as a catalyst for community resource development.

5. Providing for community education and advocacy on issues related to delivery of services.

6. Promoting prevention and early intervention services.

(c) The department shall ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that the formation of each community alliance builds on the strengths of the existing community human services infrastructure.

(d) The initial membership of the community alliance in a county shall be composed of the following:

1. The district administrator.

2. A representative from county government.

3. A representative from the school district.

4. A representative from the county United Way.

5. A representative from the county sheriff's office.

6. A representative from the circuit court corresponding to the county.

7. A representative from the county children's board, if one exists.

(e) At any time after the initial meeting of the community alliance, the community alliance shall adopt bylaws and may increase the membership

of the alliance to include the state attorney for the judicial circuit in which the community alliance is located, or his or her designee, the public defender for the judicial circuit in which the community alliance is located, or his or her designee, and other individuals and organizations who represent funding organizations, are community leaders, have knowledge of community-based service issues, or otherwise represent perspectives that will enable them to accomplish the duties listed in paragraph (b), if, in the judgment of the alliance, such change is necessary to adequately represent the diversity of the population within the community alliance service districts.

(f) A member of the community alliance, other than a member specified in paragraph (d), may not receive payment for contractual services from the department or a community-based care lead agency.

(g)(f) Members of the community alliances shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses, as provided in s. 112.061. Payment may also be authorized for preapproved child care expenses or lost wages for members who are consumers of the department's services and for preapproved child care expenses for other members who demonstrate hardship.

(h)(g) Members of a community alliance are subject to the provisions of part III of chapter 112, the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees.

(i)(h) Actions taken by a community alliance must be consistent with department policy and state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.

(j)(i) Alliance members shall annually submit a disclosure statement of services interests to the department's inspector general. Any member who has an interest in a matter under consideration by the alliance must abstain from voting on that matter.

(k)(j) All alliance meetings are open to the public pursuant to s. 286.011 and the public records provision of s. 119.07(1).

Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsections (4), (7), and (8) of section 409.1671, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 27 of chapter 2003-399, Laws of Florida, are amended, paragraph (e) is added to subsection (3) of that section, and subsection (10) is added to that section, to read:

409.1671 Foster care and related services; privatization.—

(1)

(e) As used in this section, the term "eligible lead community-based provider" means a single agency with which the department shall contract for the provision of child protective services in a community that is no smaller than a county. The secretary of the department may authorize more than one eligible lead community-based provider within a single county when to do so will result in more effective delivery of foster care and related services. To compete for a privatization project, such agency must have:

1. The ability to coordinate, integrate, and manage all child protective services in the designated community in cooperation with child protective investigations.

2. The ability to ensure continuity of care from entry to exit for all children referred from the protective investigation and court systems.

3. The ability to provide directly, or contract for through a local network of providers, all necessary child protective services. Such agencies should directly provide no more than 35 percent of all child protective services provided.

4. The willingness to accept accountability for meeting the outcomes and performance standards related to child protective services established by the Legislature and the Federal Government.

5. The capability and the willingness to serve all children referred to it from the protective investigation and court systems, regardless of the level of funding allocated to the community by the state, provided all related funding is transferred.

6. The willingness to ensure that each individual who provides child protective services completes the training required of child protective service workers by the Department of Children and Family Services.

7. The ability to maintain eligibility to receive all federal child welfare funds, including Title IV-E and IV-A funds, currently being used by the Department of Children and Family Services.

8. Written agreements with Healthy Families Florida lead entities in their community, pursuant to s. 409.153, to promote cooperative planning for the provision of prevention and intervention services.

9. A board of directors, of which at least 51 percent of the membership is comprised of persons residing in this state. Of the state residents, at least 51 percent must also reside within the service area of the lead community-based provider.

(3)

(e) Each contract with an eligible lead community-based provider must include all performance outcome measures established by the Legislature and that are under the control of the lead agency. The standards must be adjusted annually by contract amendment to enable the department to meet the legislatively-established statewide standards.

(4)(a) The department, in consultation with the community-based agencies that are undertaking the privatized projects, shall establish a quality assurance program for privatized services. The quality assurance program shall be based on standards established by the Adoption and Safe Families Act as well as by a national accrediting organization such as the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc. (COA) or CARF—the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission. The department may develop a request for proposal for such oversight. This program must be developed and administered at a statewide level. The Legislature intends that the department be permitted to have limited flexibility to use funds for improving quality assurance. To this end, the department may transfer up to 0.125

percent of the total funds from categories used to pay for these contractually provided services, but the total amount of such transferred funds may not exceed \$300,000 in any fiscal year. When necessary, the department may establish, in accordance with s. 216.177, additional positions that will be exclusively devoted to these functions. Any positions required under this paragraph may be established, notwithstanding ss. 216.262(1)(a) and 216.351. The department, in consultation with the community-based agencies that are undertaking the privatized projects, shall establish minimum thresholds for each component of service, consistent with standards established by the Legislature and the Federal Government. Each program operated under contract with a community-based agency must be evaluated annually by the department. The department shall, to the extent possible, use independent financial audits provided by the community-based care agency to eliminate or reduce the ongoing contract and administrative reviews conducted by the department. The department may suggest additional items to be included in such independent financial audits to meet the department's needs. Should the department determine that such independent financial audits are inadequate, then other audits, as necessary, may be conducted by the department. Nothing herein shall abrogate the requirements of s. 215.97. The department shall submit an annual report regarding quality performance, outcome measure attainment, and cost efficiency to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of each house of the Legislature, and the Governor no later than January 31 of each year for each project in operation during the preceding fiscal year.

(b) The department shall use these findings in making recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature for future program and funding priorities in the child welfare system.

(7) The Florida Coalition for Children, Inc., in consultation with the department, shall develop a plan based on an independent actuarial study regarding the long-term use and structure of a statewide community-based care risk pool for the protection of eligible lead community-based providers, their subcontractors, and providers of other social services who contract directly with the department. The plan must also outline strategies to maximize federal earnings as they relate to the community-based care risk pool. At a minimum, the plan must allow for the use of federal earnings received from child welfare programs to be allocated to the community-based care risk pool by the department, which earnings are determined by the department to be in excess of the amount appropriated in the General Appropriations Act. The plan must specify the necessary steps to ensure the financial integrity and industry-standard risk management practices of the community-based care risk pool and the continued availability of funding from federal, state, and local sources. The plan must also include recommendations that permit the program to be available to entities of the department providing child welfare services until full conversion to community-based care takes place. The final plan shall be submitted to the department and then to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislative Budget Commission for formal adoption before January 1, 2005. Upon approval of the plan by all parties, the department shall issue an interest-free loan that is secured by the cumulative contractual revenue of the community-based care

risk pool membership, and the amount of the loan shall equal the amount appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose. The plan shall provide for a governance structure that assures the department the ability to oversee the operation of the community-based care risk pool at least until this loan is repaid in full.

(a) The purposes for which the community-based care risk pool shall be used include, but are not limited to:

1. Significant changes in the number or composition of clients eligible to receive services.

2. Significant changes in the services that are eligible for reimbursement.

3. Scheduled or unanticipated, but necessary, advances to providers or other cash-flow issues.

4. Proposals to participate in optional Medicaid services or other federal grant opportunities.

5. Appropriate incentive structures.

6. Continuity of care in the event of failure, discontinuance of service, or financial misconduct by a lead agency.

7. Payment for time-limited technical assistance and consultation to lead agencies in the event of serious performance or management problems.

8. Payment for meeting all traditional and nontraditional insurance needs of eligible members.

9. Significant changes in the mix of available funds.

(b) After approval of the plan in the 2004-2005 fiscal year and annually thereafter, the department may also request in its annual legislative budget request, and the Governor may recommend, that the funding necessary to carry out paragraph (a) be appropriated to the department. Subsequent funding of the community-based care risk pool shall be supported by premiums assessed to members of the community-based care risk pool on a recurring basis. The community-based care risk pool may invest and retain interest earned on these funds. In addition, the department may transfer funds to the community-based care risk pool as available in order to ensure an adequate funding level if the fund is declared to be insolvent and approval is granted by the Legislative Budget Commission. Such payments for insolvency shall be made only after a determination is made by the department or its actuary that all participants in the community-based care risk pool are current in their payments of premiums and that assessments have been made at an actuarially sound level. Such payments by participants in the community-based care risk pool may not exceed reasonable industry standards, as determined by the actuary. Money from this fund may be used to match available federal dollars. Dividends or other payments, with the exception of legitimate claims, may not be paid to members of the community-based care risk pool until the loan issued by the department is repaid in full.

Dividends or other payments, with the exception of legitimate claims and other purposes contained in the approved plan, may not be paid to members of the community-based care risk pool unless, at the time of distribution, the community-based care risk pool is deemed actuarially sound and solvent. Solvency shall be determined by an independent actuary contracted by the department. The plan shall be developed in consultation with the Office of Insurance Regulation.

1. Such funds shall constitute partial security for contract performance by lead agencies and shall be used to offset the need for a performance bond. Subject to the approval of the plan, the community-based care risk pool shall be managed by the Florida Coalition for Children, Inc., or the designated contractors of the Florida Coalition for Children, Inc. Nonmembers of the community-based care risk pool may continue to contract with the department, but must provide a letter of credit equal to one-twelfth of the annual contract amount in lieu of membership in the community-based care risk pool.

2. The department may separately require a bond to mitigate the financial consequences of potential acts of malfeasance, misfeasance, or criminal violations by the provider.

~~(7) The department, in consultation with existing lead agencies, shall develop a proposal regarding the long-term use and structure of a statewide shared earnings program which addresses the financial risk to eligible lead community-based providers resulting from unanticipated caseload growth or from significant changes in client mixes or services eligible for federal reimbursement. The recommendations in the statewide proposal must also be available to entities of the department until the conversion to community-based care takes place. At a minimum, the proposal must allow for use of federal earnings received from child welfare programs, which earnings are determined by the department to be in excess of the amount appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, to be used for specific purposes. These purposes include, but are not limited to:~~

~~(a) Significant changes in the number or composition of clients eligible to receive services.~~

~~(b) Significant changes in the services that are eligible for reimbursement.~~

~~(c) Significant changes in the availability of federal funds.~~

~~(d) Shortfalls in state funds available for eligible or ineligible services.~~

~~(e) Significant changes in the mix of available funds.~~

~~(f) Scheduled or unanticipated, but necessary, advances to providers or other cash-flow issues.~~

~~(g) Proposals to participate in optional Medicaid services or other federal grant opportunities.~~

(h) ~~Appropriate incentive structures.~~

(i) ~~Continuity of care in the event of lead agency failure, discontinuance of service, or financial misconduct.~~

~~The department shall further specify the necessary steps to ensure the financial integrity of these dollars and their continued availability on an ongoing basis. The final proposal shall be submitted to the Legislative Budget Commission for formal adoption before December 31, 2002. If the Legislative Budget Commission refuses to concur with the adoption of the proposal, the department shall present its proposal in the form of recommended legislation to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives before the commencement of the next legislative session. For fiscal year 2003-2004 and annually thereafter, the Department of Children and Family Services may request in its legislative budget request, and the Governor may recommend, the funding necessary to carry out paragraph (i) from excess federal earnings. The General Appropriations Act shall include any funds appropriated for this purpose in a lump sum in the Administered Funds Program, which funds constitute partial security for lead agency contract performance. The department shall use this appropriation to offset the need for a performance bond for that year after a comparison of risk to the funds available. In no event shall this performance bond exceed 2.5 percent of the annual contract value. The department may separately require a bond to mitigate the financial consequences of potential acts of malfeasance, misfeasance, or criminal violations by the provider. Prior to the release of any funds in the lump sum, the department shall submit a detailed operational plan, which must identify the sources of specific trust funds to be used. The release of the trust fund shall be subject to the notice and review provisions of s. 216.177. However, the release shall not require approval of the Legislative Budget Commission.~~

(8) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 215.425, all documented federal funds earned for the current fiscal year by the department and community-based agencies which exceed the amount appropriated by the Legislature shall be distributed to all entities that contributed to the excess earnings based on a schedule and methodology developed by the department and approved by the Executive Office of the Governor. Distribution shall be pro rata based on total earnings and shall be made only to those entities that contributed to excess earnings. Excess earnings of community-based agencies shall be used only in the service district in which they were earned. Additional state funds appropriated by the Legislature for community-based agencies or made available pursuant to the budgetary amendment process described in s. 216.177 shall be transferred to the community-based agencies. The department shall amend a community-based agency's contract to permit expenditure of the funds. ~~The distribution program applies only to entities that were under privatization contracts as of July 1, 2002.~~

(10) The lead community-based providers and their subcontractors shall be exempt from state travel policies as set forth in s. 112.061(3)(a) for their travel expenses incurred in order to comply with the requirements of this section.

Section 3. Section 39.0016, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

39.0016 Education of abused, neglected, and abandoned children.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Children known to the department” means children who are found to be dependent or children in shelter care.

(b) “Department” means the Department of Children and Family Services or a community-based care lead agency acting on behalf of the Department of Children and Family Services, as appropriate.

(2) The provisions of this section establish goals and not rights. This section does not require the delivery of any particular service or level of service in excess of existing appropriations. A person may not maintain a cause of action against the state or any of its subdivisions, agencies, contractors, subcontractors, or agents based upon this section becoming law or failure by the Legislature to provide adequate funding for the achievement of these goals. This section does not require the expenditure of funds to meet the goals established in this section except funds specifically appropriated for such purpose.

(3) The department shall enter into an agreement with the Department of Education regarding the education and related care of children known to the department. Such agreement shall be designed to provide educational access to children known to the department for the purpose of facilitating the delivery of services or programs to children known to the department. The agreement shall avoid duplication of services or programs and shall provide for combining resources to maximize the availability or delivery of services or programs.

(4) The department shall enter into agreements with district school boards or other local educational entities regarding education and related services for children known to the department who are of school age and children known to the department who are younger than school age but who would otherwise qualify for services from the district school board. Such agreements shall include, but are not limited to:

(a) A requirement that the department shall:

1. Enroll children known to the department in school. The agreement shall provide for continuing the enrollment of a child known to the department at the same school, if possible, with the goal of avoiding disruption of education.

2. Notify the school and school district in which a child known to the department is enrolled of the name and phone number of the child known to the department caregiver and caseworker for child safety purposes.

3. Establish a protocol for the department to share information about a child known to the department with the school district, consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, since the sharing of information

will assist each agency in obtaining education and related services for the benefit of the child.

4. Notify the school district of the department's case planning for a child known to the department, both at the time of plan development and plan review. Within the plan development or review process, the school district may provide information regarding the child known to the department if the school district deems it desirable and appropriate.

(b) A requirement that the district school board shall:

1. Provide the department with a general listing of the services and information available from the district school board, including, but not limited to, the current Sunshine State Standards, the Surrogate Parent Training Manual, and other resources accessible through the Department of Education or local school districts to facilitate educational access for a child known to the department.

2. Identify all educational and other services provided by the school and school district which the school district believes are reasonably necessary to meet the educational needs of a child known to the department.

3. Determine whether transportation is available for a child known to the department when such transportation will avoid a change in school assignment due to a change in residential placement. Recognizing that continued enrollment in the same school throughout the time the child known to the department is in out-of-home care is preferable unless enrollment in the same school would be unsafe or otherwise impractical, the department, the district school board, and the Department of Education shall assess the availability of federal, charitable, or grant funding for such transportation.

4. Provide individualized student intervention or an individual educational plan when a determination has been made through legally appropriate criteria that intervention services are required. The intervention or individual educational plan must include strategies to enable the child known to the department to maximize the attainment of educational goals.

(c) A requirement that the department and the district school board shall cooperate in accessing the services and supports needed for a child known to the department who has or is suspected of having a disability to receive an appropriate education consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and state implementing laws, rules, and assurances. Coordination of services for a child known to the department who has or is suspected of having a disability may include:

1. Referral for screening.

2. Sharing of evaluations between the school district and the department where appropriate.

3. Provision of education and related services appropriate for the needs and abilities of the child known to the department.

4. Coordination of services and plans between the school and the residential setting to avoid duplication or conflicting service plans.

5. Appointment of a surrogate parent, consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, for educational purposes for a child known to the department who qualifies as soon as the child is determined to be dependent and without a parent to act for the child. The surrogate parent shall be appointed by the school district without regard to where the child known to the department is placed so that one surrogate parent can follow the education of the child known to the department during his or her entire time in state custody.

6. For each child known to the department 14 years of age and older, transition planning by the department and all providers, including the department's independent living program staff, to meet the requirements of the local school district for educational purposes.

(5) The department shall incorporate an education component into all training programs of the department regarding children known to the department. Such training shall be coordinated with the Department of Education and the local school districts. The department shall offer opportunities for education personnel to participate in such training. Such coordination shall include, but not be limited to, notice of training sessions, opportunities to purchase training materials, proposals to avoid duplication of services by offering joint training, and incorporation of materials available from the Department of Education and local school districts into the department training when appropriate. The department training components shall include:

(a) Training for surrogate parents to include how an ability to learn of a child known to the department is affected by abuse, abandonment, neglect, and removal from the home.

(b) Training for parents in cases in which reunification is the goal, or for preadoptive parents when adoption is the goal, so that such parents learn how to access the services the child known to the department needs and the importance of their involvement in the education of the child known to the department.

(c) Training for caseworkers and foster parents to include information on the right of the child known to the department to an education, the role of an education in the development and adjustment of a child known to the department, the proper ways to access education and related services for the child known to the department, and the importance and strategies for parental involvement in education for the success of the child known to the department.

(d) Training of caseworkers regarding the services and information available through the Department of Education and local school districts, including, but not limited to, the current Sunshine State Standards, the Surrogate Parent Training Manual, and other resources accessible through the Department of Education or local school districts to facilitate educational access for a child known to the department.

Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 1002.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.22 Student records and reports; rights of parents and students; notification; penalty.—

(3) RIGHTS OF PARENT OR STUDENT.—The parent of any student who attends or has attended any public school, area technical center, or public postsecondary educational institution shall have the following rights with respect to any records or reports created, maintained, and used by any public educational institution in the state. However, whenever a student has attained 18 years of age, or is attending a postsecondary educational institution, the permission or consent required of, and the rights accorded to, the parents of the student shall thereafter be required of and accorded to the student only, unless the student is a dependent student of such parents as defined in 26 U.S.C. s. 152 (s. 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954). The State Board of Education shall adopt rules whereby parents or students may exercise these rights:

(d) Right of privacy.—Every student shall have a right of privacy with respect to the educational records kept on him or her. Personally identifiable records or reports of a student, and any personal information contained therein, are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). A ~~No~~ state or local educational agency, board, public school, technical center, or public postsecondary educational institution may not shall permit the release of such records, reports, or information without the written consent of the student's parent, or of the student himself or herself if he or she is qualified as provided in this subsection, to any individual, agency, or organization. However, personally identifiable records or reports of a student may be released to the following persons or organizations without the consent of the student or the student's parent:

1. Officials of schools, school systems, technical centers, or public postsecondary educational institutions in which the student seeks or intends to enroll; and a copy of such records or reports shall be furnished to the parent or student upon request.

2. Other school officials, including teachers within the educational institution or agency, who have legitimate educational interests in the information contained in the records.

3. The United States Secretary of Education, the Director of the National Institute of Education, the Assistant Secretary for Education, the Comptroller General of the United States, or state or local educational authorities who are authorized to receive such information subject to the conditions set forth in applicable federal statutes and regulations of the United States Department of Education, or in applicable state statutes and rules of the State Board of Education.

4. Other school officials, in connection with a student's application for or receipt of financial aid.

5. Individuals or organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of an institution or a board of education for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction, if such studies are conducted in such a manner as will not permit the personal identification of students and their parents by persons other than representatives of such organizations and if such information will be destroyed when no longer needed for the purpose of conducting such studies.

6. Accrediting organizations, in order to carry out their accrediting functions.

7. School readiness coalitions and the Florida Partnership for School Readiness in order to carry out their assigned duties.

8. For use as evidence in student expulsion hearings conducted by a district school board pursuant to the provisions of chapter 120.

9. Appropriate parties in connection with an emergency, if knowledge of the information in the student's educational records is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

10. The Auditor General and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in connection with their official functions; however, except when the collection of personally identifiable information is specifically authorized by law, any data collected by the Auditor General and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and shall be protected in such a way as will not permit the personal identification of students and their parents by other than the Auditor General, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, and their staff, and such personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when no longer needed for the Auditor General's and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability's official use.

11.a. A court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with an order of that court or the attorney of record pursuant to a lawfully issued subpoena, upon the condition that the student and the student's parent are notified of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance therewith by the educational institution or agency.

b. A person or entity pursuant to a court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with an order of that court or the attorney of record pursuant to a lawfully issued subpoena, upon the condition that the student, or his or her parent if the student is either a minor and not attending a postsecondary educational institution or a dependent of such parent as defined in 26 U.S.C. s. 152 (s. 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954), is notified of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance therewith by the educational institution or agency.

12. Credit bureaus, in connection with an agreement for financial aid that the student has executed, provided that such information may be disclosed only to the extent necessary to enforce the terms or conditions of the

financial aid agreement. Credit bureaus shall not release any information obtained pursuant to this paragraph to any person.

13. Parties to an interagency agreement among the Department of Juvenile Justice, school and law enforcement authorities, and other signatory agencies for the purpose of reducing juvenile crime and especially motor vehicle theft by promoting cooperation and collaboration, and the sharing of appropriate information in a joint effort to improve school safety, to reduce truancy and in-school and out-of-school suspensions, and to support alternatives to in-school and out-of-school suspensions and expulsions that provide structured and well-supervised educational programs supplemented by a coordinated overlay of other appropriate services designed to correct behaviors that lead to truancy, suspensions, and expulsions, and that support students in successfully completing their education. Information provided in furtherance of such interagency agreements is intended solely for use in determining the appropriate programs and services for each juvenile or the juvenile's family, or for coordinating the delivery of such programs and services, and as such is inadmissible in any court proceedings prior to a dispositional hearing unless written consent is provided by a parent or other responsible adult on behalf of the juvenile.

14. Consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the Department of Children and Family Services or a community-based care lead agency acting on behalf of the Department of Children and Family Services, as appropriate.

This paragraph does not prohibit any educational institution from publishing and releasing to the general public directory information relating to a student if the institution elects to do so. However, no educational institution shall release, to any individual, agency, or organization that is not listed in subparagraphs ~~1.-14.~~ ~~1.-13.~~, directory information relating to the student body in general or a portion thereof unless it is normally published for the purpose of release to the public in general. Any educational institution making directory information public shall give public notice of the categories of information that it has designated as directory information with respect to all students attending the institution and shall allow a reasonable period of time after such notice has been given for a parent or student to inform the institution in writing that any or all of the information designated should not be released.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2004.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2004.