**2018 Legislation: Infants and Toddlers, SAMH, Poverty**

**AHCA:** no initiatives that align with Cabinet priorities

**DOE:** unknown

**DOH:**

**Immunizations**

* The bill would require practitioners to enter immunizations into the state registry in order to have reliable data and share the data with school districts to ensure children have the proper immunizations.
* The bill would streamline the sharing of data between DOH, practitioners and school districts, improving school readiness.

**Early Steps**

* The Department included in its LBR a request for spending authority for increased federal funding for the Early Steps program. The request is for $1.3 million.

**Opioids**

* Gov. Scott’s budget allocates $1.2 million for upgrades to the PDMP. This funding is key to maintaining and upgrading the database, as well as enabling the addition of new features that will encourage use by prescribers.

**OEL:** $7 million for additional slots, a $50 increase in the BSA for VPK, $15.5 million to continue performance funding

**APD:**

**Involuntary Commitment:** A Statutory change that would revise and clarify the procedure under which a person may be involuntarily committed to a residential placement to ensure a smoother commitment process for clients committed to the agency, and to ensure only those eligible for agency services are committed to APD. The proposal would also revise and clarify the procedure for individuals who receive forensic services from the agency and would ensure:

* That individuals meet statutory definitions for forensic services; they would not be subject to conditional release for longer than two years if unlikely to become competent.
* They would receive a competency hearing in a reasonable time after becoming competent.
* That limited agency resources are not spent on those who are not eligible based on statute, and only qualified evaluators are informing the court as to whether someone meets the statutory definition of intellectual disability or autism.

**GAL:**

**Reimbursement for Extraordinary Advocate Expenses**

* $331,262 in recurring general revenue funding to reimburse Guardian ad Litem (GAL) volunteers for extraordinary travel expenses related to best interests advocacy. Due to increased numbers of children in out-of-home care, Gals must travel longer distances to do their work. Some GAL volunteers, particularly those who are retired on fixed incomes, have indicated that the costs of travel could cause them to decline cases, thereby reducing the overall number of GAL volunteers and thus the number of children represented.

**Early Childhood Court**

* $1,054,143 in recurring general revenue funds to establish 18 FTEs Child Advocate Manager I positions (class code (8401) and 1 FTE Program Director (class code 8505) to provide targeted advocacy for the best interests of infants and toddlers aged 0 to 3 within Early Childhood Courts in Florida's judicial circuits

**DCF:**

**Continued focus on early childhood, including prenatal, infants and toddlers because of the importance of early brain development; and school readiness for our three to five year olds.**

* IV-E Waiver Path Forward
* Child Protection Workforce Stability: Funding to address statewide child protection retention (19 additional child protective investigators, 30 additional child protective investigator supervisors, 20 additional Hotline Criminal Intelligence Unit)

**Mental Health & Substance Abuse** (safety and health), including teens with significant behavioral/mental health issues; suicide rate

* State Targeted Response to Opioid Crisis (Year 2, $27 million)
* Substance Abuse Service System of Care Enhancements - $15 million
* Specialized Behavioral Health Services for Dually-Served Youth and Families - $1,357,647

**Children living in high poverty areas** (safety, health, and education), producing positive outcomes; safe and affordable housing (and neighborhoods); access to quality education; access to health care; livable wages.

* Legislation to establish the Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) and Title IV-E Extended Foster Care and Adoption Subsidies
* Structures services to continue to draw down federal funds after the expiration of the state’s Title IV-E Waiver
* Licensing of kinship guardians to replace the Relative/Nonrelative Caregiver program
* Extended Foster Care / Independent Living Services Growth - $7,640,257
* implements a federal Extended Foster Care program in order to maximize federal funds
* extension of Maintenance Adoption Subsidies up to age 21 for those adopted at 16 or 17
* Expansion of Services and Placements for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) - $1,915,358

**DJJ:**

**Modify Invest In Children Disbursement**

* Modify the process for fund disbursement of Invest in Children license plate proceeds to allow counties to apply for grants from the total proceeds collected.
* Currently, the proceeds from the sale of Invest in Children license plates are deposited in the Juvenile Crime Prevention and Early Intervention Trust Fund. The funds are then allocated for programs and services within each county based on that county’s proportionate share of the license plate fee collected by the county.
* Due to the statute requirement and the declining sales of the license plate tag, it is extremely difficult to purchase and provide meaningful prevention services within many of the counties.
* This change would allow DJJ to use these funds collectively in a meaningful way to better address prevention programming needs across Florida.

**Agency Direct Support Organization**

* The Florida Juvenile Justice Foundation is set to be repealed on October 1, 2018, in accordance with the Open Government Sunset Review Act.
* The Department seeks to reauthorize the Foundation for another ten years through October 1, 2028, to continue its collaboration with the Department and support of Florida’s youth.
* The Department also seeks to update the language relating to the Board of Directors, to allow for the composition of the board to be in accordance to that of the Foundation’s bylaws
* Current statute dictating the composition of the DSO uses out of date terminology.

**Prolific Juvenile Offender Violations of Nonsecure Detention**

* HB 7059, which took effect October 1st, established the prolific juvenile offender (PJO) designation, to apply to youth with excessively high recidivism.
* Statute must be strengthened regarding violations of nonsecure detention for youth meeting the PJO designation.
* The Department seeks to allow for PJO youth who violate the terms of their nonsecure detention to be held in secure detention until their detention hearing.

**Required consideration of DJJ Predisposition Report (PDR)**

* The Department has seen a significant increase in residential commitments for which the judge did not consider the Department’s recommendations for suitability for adjudications of commitment, including the predisposition report.
* The extensive information provided in these recommendations is crucial to determining the best placement for each youth.
* The Department seeks to require judicial consideration of the predisposition report, in determining a youth’s suitability for adjudications of commitment
* Strengthening this requirement may reduce the number of bench commitments of low- and moderate-risk youth, thus reducing recidivism and cost of treatment.

**FY 2018-19 Legislative Budget Request**

(1) Staff Retention Plan for Juvenile Detention Officers: $3,850,294 - $1,925,147 (GR) & $1,925,147 (TF) Recurring dollars. Funding to increase the base rate of pay and across the board pay increase for Juvenile Detention Officer series by 10%.

(2) Staff Retention Plan for Juvenile Probation Officers: $4,182,113 (GR) Recurring dollars. Funding to increase the base rate of pay and across the board pay increase for Juvenile Probation Officer series by 10%.

(3) Increased Residential Commitment Capacity: $12,938,520 - $6,837,180 (GR) & $6,101,340 (TF) Recurring dollars. Funding for 140 treatment beds for youth adjudicated to non-secure (112 beds) and secure (28 beds) residential programs. Twenty-eight of the non-secure beds will be intensive mental health.

(4) Maintain Safe and Healthy Facilities: $11,647,000 (GR) Non-recurring dollars. Funding for repairs and maintenance of facilities, code corrections and to retrofit facilities to accommodate the additional residential beds.

(5) Infrastructure Replacement: $804,000 (GR) Non-recurring dollars. Funding to continue year-two of project to replace the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) and Residential Positive Achievement Change (RPACT).

(6) Continuation and Expansion of Prevention and Early Intervention Programs: $9,171,291 - $3,900,000 (GR) & $5,271,291 (TF) $3,671,291 to continue Stop Now and Plan (SNAP) program funded in FY 2017-18 in 6 judicial circuits and to expand the program to the remaining 10 judicial circuits in Florida.

* $1,400,000 to continue PACE Center for Girls programs for middle and high school girls statewide. Non-recurring GR
* $1,400,000 to continue PACE Center for Girls programs in Hernando County. Non-recurring GR
* $1,000,000 to continue Prodigy Cultural Arts program located in central west Florida that serves youth who are at-risk in delinquency, academic failure, school dropout, etc. Recurring TF
* $500,000 to continue Florida Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs after school prevention services. Recurring GR
* $1,000,000 to continue Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida mentoring programs. 600K recurring GR and 400K recurring TF
* $200,000 to continue Outward Bound extended follow-up services for youth completing wilderness expeditions. recurring TF

(7) Establish an Office of Youth and Family Advocacy: $317,150 and 3.0 FTEs (GR/TF) Recurring dollars. To serve as a firsthand resource working directly with youth and families to foster communication and amplify their voice in the ongoing improvement of the juvenile justice system.

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| **Bill #** | **Sponsor** | **Topic** | **Status** | **Subject area** |
| HB 41  SB 444 | Toledo  Bean | Pregnancy Support and Wellness Services  Pregnancy Support Services | On calendar  HHS Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 56  HB 163 | Book  Cruz | Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products  Tax Exemption for Personal Hygiene Products | Finance and Tax Appropriations; Appropriations  Ways and Means; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 92  HB 115 | Book  Slosberg | Children in Motor Vehicles | Transportation; CCJ Appropriations; Appropriations; Rules  Criminal Justice; Children, Families and Seniors; Judiciary | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 188 | Steube | Public School Transportation | Education; Pre-K-12 Education Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 236  HB 809 | Book  Duran | Tax Credit for Baby Changing Tables in Restaurants | Commerce and Tourism; Finance and Tax Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| HB 305  SB 486 | Antone  Stewart | Child Care Facilities | Children, Families and Seniors; Health Care Appropriations; HHS  Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; Transportation; Rules | Infants and toddlers |
| HB 407  SB 434 | Rommel  Passidomo | Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Pilot Project | Health Innovation; Health Care Appropriations; HHS  Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| HB 515  SB 736 | Hahnfeldt  Baxley | Offenses Against Students by Authority Figures  Prohibited Conduct Between Authority Figures and Students | Criminal Justice; Education; Judiciary  Criminal Justice; Appropriations; Rules | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 528 | Stargel | Health Insurance Coverage for Enteral Formulas | Banking and Insurance; General Government Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| HB 543  SB 1146 | Cortes  Simmons | The Books to Babies Pilot Project  Books to Babies Pilot Project | Pre-K-12 Innovation; Pre-K-12 Appropriations; Education | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 590 | Garcia | Kinship Care | Judiciary; HHS Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 654 | Perry | Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program | Education; Pre-K-12 Education Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 728 | Perry | Child Restraint Requirements |  | Infants and toddlers |
| HB 951  SB 1192 | Fischer  Stargel | Education |  | Infants and toddlers |
| SB 138  HB 937 | Book  Nunez | Perinatal Mental Health | Health Policy; HHS Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers; SAMH |
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| SB 1196 | Rouson | Minor Patients |  | SAMH |
| HB 63  SB 260 | Edwards  Book | Students with Disabilities in Public Schools | Pre-K-12 Quality; Education  Education; Health Policy; Rules | SAMH |
| SB 270  HB 947 | Steube  Payne | Involuntary Examination and Involuntary Admission of Minors | Criminal Justice; Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; Rules | SAMH |
| SB 138  HB 937 | Book  Nunez | Perinatal Mental Health | Health Policy; HHS Appropriations; Appropriations | Infants and toddlers; SAMH |
| HB 391  SB 802 | Gruters  Garcia | Drug and Violence Prevention Programs | Withdrawn prior to introduction  Education; Pre-K-12 Education Appropriations; Appropriations | SAMH |
| SB 112  HB 573 | Campbell  Daniels | Involuntary Examinations under the Baker Act | Health Policy; Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; Judiciary; Rules  Health Quality; Civil Justice and Claims; HHS | SAMH |
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| HB 603 | Gonzalez | Taxes and Fees for Veterans and Low-income Persons | Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs; Ways and Means; Government Accountability | Poverty |
| SB 108  HB 293 | Campbell  Duran | Florida Kidcare Program | Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Rules  Health Innovation; Health Care Appropriations; HHS | Poverty |
| SB 306  HB 853 | Rouson  Davis | Housing Discrimination | Judiciary; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Rules | Poverty |
| HB 301 | Cortes | Housing Assistance | Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs; Transportation and Tourism Appropriations; Government Accountability | Poverty |
| HB 911  SJR 1136 | Berman  Taddeo | Expansion of Medicaid Coverage  Medicaid Expansion |  | Poverty |
| HB 643 | Payne | Public Assistance Fraud | Children, Families and Seniors; Health Care Appropriations; HHS | Poverty |
| SB 508  HB 693  HB 751  SB 1160 | Rouson  White  Eagle  Steube | Public Assistance  Family Self-Sufficiency  Public Assistance  Family Self-sufficiency | Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; Commerce and Tourism; HHS Appropriations; Appropriations  Appropriations; HHS  Children, Families and Seniors; Health Care Appropriations; HHS | Poverty |