

AMERICAN CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN

2022 Bill Highlights

As of 4/4/2022

SB 912 & HB 1301 – Community-based Care Lead Agency Expenditures

Sponsors: Senator Brodeur (R-Lake Mary) & Representative Fabricio (R-Hialeah)

Outcome: SB 912 died in its second committee. HB 1301 died in its first committee.

Target Population: Community based lead agency employees

Summary: States a Community Care Based Lead Agency employee cannot receive total compensation from state appropriated funds as a result of employment with lead agencies, lead agencies and a managing entity, or lead agencies and another state agency. Mandates that DCF include provisions to limit compensation in any amendment to existing community-based care lead agency contracts. Defines the term “community-based care lead agency employee” to include the positions of chief executive officer, chief financial officer, or chief operating officer. Defines “incentive pay” and “total



compensation”.

How the Bills Differ: The bills are identical.

Impact: There are currently 17 Community-Based Care (CBC) Agencies in Florida who serve children who are the victims of abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

The proposed legislation defines how much compensation can come from state funding for CBC governing boards and certain employees to prevent disproportionate spending. These provisions will keep the state's investment in CBC's focused on youth services and the vulnerable children served by these organizations. The additional state dollars for services could be used to increase the quality of care that youth are receiving.

This legislation is a step towards more accountable CBC lead agencies, but more needs to be done to ensure lead agencies are being managed in the best interest of Florida's neglected and abused children. Efforts by the Florida Legislature have worked to improve accountability and transparency within CBC lead agencies, but additional issues continue, including the number of children overseen by single CBC's, the impact that has on the original focus on local control, and representation on CBC governing boards.

This bill creates additional requirements and oversight for the practices of community-based care lead agencies to ensure these agencies are working in the best interest of the child according to research-based practices. American Children's Campaign supports keeping the states' abused and neglected children healthy and safe by improving Community-Based Care Lead Agencies based on best practices.

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

