

SB 924 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

Action Date: 03/19/19

Action: Without recommendation as to passage and referral to Judiciary and then to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Fagan, Gelser, Knopp, Monnes Anderson

Exc: 1 - Heard

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Jamie Hinsz, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits children from being placed in detention facilities who have run away or been taken into protective custody, including placement in adjacent states. Allows placement of youth or youth offenders in shelter care or detention facility in adjacent states. Prohibits placement in detention of child from another state who has run away from home or placement and allows such child to be placed in shelter care. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current process for children in protective custody
- Referral to another committee

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A child may be taken into protective custody when the child's conditions or surroundings reasonably appear to be such as to jeopardize the child's welfare, when the juvenile court has ordered that the child be taken into protective custody, or when it reasonably appears that the child has run away from home. Children who are placed in substitute care, children who have run away, and youth offenders can all be taken into protective custody. Shelter care is a home or other facility suitable for the safekeeping of a child taken into temporary custody, and detention is a placement for the detention of children pursuant to a judicial commitment or order. Current law allows children in protective custody to be placed in shelter care or detention facilities.

Senate Bill 924 requires the distinction between shelter care and detention to be maintained, so that children in protective custody may be placed in shelter care, but not in detention unless the juvenile court has ordered this placement.