

# Florida

## Department of Education

**Bill Number:** House Bill 509

**Bill Title:** Children's Cabinet

**Bill Sponsor:** Representative Ausley

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007

**DOE Contact:** Shan Goff, Director, Office of Early Learning, (850) 245-5070

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### Executive Summary:

This bill creates *The Children and Youth Cabinet*, in the Executive Office of the Governor, to assist the state to achieve the visions and plans necessary so that Florida is the first place families think of when asked, "Where do you want to raise a child?" The Children's Cabinet consists of 15 members, including the Governor, and the following persons:

- The Secretary of Children and Family Services
- The Secretary of Juvenile Justice
- The director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- The director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation
- The Secretary of Health
- The Secretary of Health Care Administration
- The Commissioner of Education
- The director of the Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office
- The director of the Office Child Abuse and Prevention
- Five members representing children and youth advocacy organizations, who are not service providers and who are appointed by the Governor.

The President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Attorney General, and the Chief Financial Officer, or their designees serve as ex officio members of the Cabinet. The Governor or his designee serves as the chair. Additionally, the Governor may also appoint an advisory board to assist.

The Children and Youth Cabinet is required to meet for its organizational session no later than October 1, 2007 and at least six times each year in different regions of the state to solicit input from the public. The Children and Youth Cabinet is required to:

- develop and implement a shared and cohesive vision using integrated services
- develop, no later than December 31, 2007, a strategic plan to achieve the goals of the vision
- develop and implement measurable outcomes for each state department consistent with the strategic plan
- design and implement actions that will promote collaboration, creativity, increased efficiency, information sharing, and improved service delivery between and within state governmental organizations
- foster public awareness of children and youth issues
- create a children and youth impact statement for evaluating proposed legislation, requested appropriations, and programs
- identify existing and potential funding streams and resources for children's services

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- develop a children-and-youth-based budget structure and nomenclature that includes all relevant departments, funding streams, and programs
- engage in other activities that will improve collaboration
- submit an annual report to the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House by February 1 of each year.

### General Implementation Timeline:

June – August, 2007	DOE to conduct an internal inventory of all programs, services, and funding streams associated with education and children.
June – September, 2007	DOE to conduct an inventory of successful state- and district-level office/program interagency activities
August – September, 2007	DOE to prepare for first Children's Cabinet meeting
February 1 of each year	The Child and Youth Cabinet is required to submit an annual report to the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House