

# National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter 2017 Bills

The **National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter (NASW-FL)** is part of the world's largest organization of professional social workers, and represents approximately 5,400 professional social workers in Florida.

## **Bills NASW-FL IS FOLLOWING**

### **2017 Bills NASW-FL is Following**

#### **[HB 0017 - Local Regulation Preemption by Representative Fine](#)**

Prohibits certain local governments from imposing or adopting certain regulations on businesses, professions, & occupations after certain date; preempts to state regulations concerning businesses, professions, & occupations; provides exceptions to preemption. Effective Date: July 1, 2017

#### **[HB 0023 - Public Assistance by Representative](#)**

Revises penalties for noncompliance with work requirements for temporary cash assistance; limits receipt of child-only benefits during periods of noncompliance with work requirements; provides applicability of work requirements before expiration of minimum penalty period; requires DCF to refer sanctioned participants to appropriate community services; requires DEO, in cooperation with CareerSource Florida, Inc., & DCF, to develop & implement work plan agreement for participants in temporary cash assistance program; prohibits use of EBT card at specified locations; requires DCF to impose replacement fee for EBT cards; revises eligibility guidelines for Relative Caregiver Program with respect to relative & nonrelative caregivers; provides appropriation

#### **[HB 0055 - Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans by Representative Burgess](#)**

Requires DVA, subject to appropriation, to contract w/ individuals & entities to provide alternative treatment options for certain veterans; requires alternative treatment to be provided under direction & supervision of certain licensed individuals; requires contracted individual/entity to submit annual report to DVA.

#### **[HB 0151 - Proceedings Involving Minors or Certain Other Persons by Representative Brodeur](#)**

Provides that judges may allow use of certain therapy animals or facility dogs in proceedings involving abuse, abandonment, or neglect; allows such animals to be used when taking testimony of certain other persons.

#### **[SB 0196 - Juvenile Civil Citation and Similar Diversion Programs by Senator Flores](#)**

Juvenile Civil Citation and Similar Diversion Programs; Requiring the establishment of civil citation or similar diversion programs for juveniles, etc.

#### **[HB 0205 - Juvenile Diversion Programs by Representative Ahern](#)**

Requires, rather than authorizes, FDLE to adopt rules to provide for expunction of certain nonjudicial records of arrest of minor upon successful completion of certain diversion programs; authorizes such expunctions for certain first-time misdemeanor offenses; revises circumstances under which FDLE must expunge certain nonjudicial arrest records; eliminates processing fee; requires diversion program to submit certification for expunction of nonjudicial arrest record; requires diversion program to submit specified data to DJJ; authorizes child to deny or fail to acknowledge participation in specified diversion program or expungement of certain nonjudicial arrest record unless exception applies.

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## [HB 0213 - Juvenile Civil Citation and Similar Diversion Programs by Representative Brown](#)

Requires establishment of civil citation or similar diversion programs for juveniles; specifies program eligibility, participation, & implementation requirements; provides exceptions; provides applicability.

## [HB 0229 - Programs for Impaired Health Care Practitioners by Representative Byrd](#)

Revises provisions related to impaired practitioner programs; deletes requirement that DOH designate approved programs by rule; deletes provisions related to probable cause panels; deletes provisions related to agency of specified persons; provides that impaired practitioner may be reported to consultant rather than DOH under certain circumstances; revises grounds for disciplinary action to include termination from impaired practitioner program under certain circumstances.

## [HB 0273 - Conversion Therapy by Representative Richardson](#)

Defines term "conversion therapy"; prohibits persons who are licensed to provide professional counseling & various health practitioners from engaging in conversion therapy with person who is younger than specified age.

## [SB 0286 - Human Trafficking Education in Schools by Senator Steube](#)

Human Trafficking Education in Schools; Revising the required health education in public schools to include information regarding the dangers and signs of human trafficking, etc.

## [HB 0319 - Discrimination in Labor and Employment by Representative Berman](#)

Creates "Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act"; revises provisions prohibiting discrimination on basis of sex to include discrimination on basis of gender identity; prohibits employer from providing less favorable employment opportunities to employees based on sex or gender identity; provides exceptions; specifies civil penalties; revises applicability; prohibits employer from taking certain employment actions against employees; prohibits employer from engaging in certain activities relating to employee wages & benefits or requiring employee to sign certain waivers.

## [SB 0326 - Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans by Senator Steube](#)

Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans; Providing definitions; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to contract with certain individuals and entities to provide alternative treatment options for certain veterans; requiring direction and supervision by certain licensed providers; authorizing the department to adopt rules, etc.

## [SB 0358 - Mental Health and Substance Abuse by Senator Garcia](#)

Mental Health and Substance Abuse; Authorizing the Department of Children and Families to approve receiving systems for behavioral health care; deleting an obsolete provision requiring a report by the department and the Agency for Health Care Administration; requiring the department to post certain data on its website; specifying that certain court hearings must be scheduled within 5 court working days.

## [HB 0367 - Prearrest Diversion Programs by Representative Plakon](#)

Encourages local prearrest diversion programs for certain offenders; encourages such programs to share information with other such programs; authorizes law enforcement officers to issue civil citation or similar prearrest diversion program notice to adults; requires program to provide certain services; requires that adult issued civil citation fulfill community service requirement & pay restitution to victim; permits criminal charges if adults fail to complete program; prohibits arrest record from being associated with certain offense for adult who successfully completes program; provides for creation of program & development of policies & procedures; specifies nonviolent misdemeanor offenses that are eligible for program.

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## [HB 0369 - Pub. Rec./Prearrest Diversion Programs by Representative Plakon](#)

Provides that personal identifying information of an adult who participates in civil citation or similar prearrest diversion program is exempt from public record requirements; provides for future review & repeal of exemption; provides statement of public necessity.

## [SB 0410 - Employment Discrimination by Senator Stewart](#)

Employment Discrimination; Revising provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex to include discrimination on the basis of gender identity; prohibiting an employer from providing less favorable employment opportunities to employees based on their sex or gender identity; creating the "Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act", etc.

## [SB 0416 - Use of Animals in Proceedings Involving Minors by Senator Montford](#)

Use of Animals in Proceedings Involving Minors; Specifying that the court may allow the use of therapy animals or facility dogs in certain proceedings; removing the requirement that certain animals be registered; defining terms, etc.

## [HB 427 - Refugee Assistance Programs Cosponsored by Representatives Santiago and Byrd](#)

Requires state's withdrawal from federal refugee program & provides notice requirements relating thereto; removes language relating to refugee assistance program & rulemaking for program.

## [HB 0431 - Abuse of a Parent by Representative Mercado](#)

Defines "child" & "parent" for purposes of crimes of abuse of parent, aggravated abuse of parent, exploitation of parent's assets, & emotional abuse of parent; provides elements of such crimes; authorizes alternative sentencing; requires reporting of abuse of parent or exploitation of parent's assets to central abuse hotline of DCF; provides immunity for person who files, or participates in investigation resulting from, such report.

## [SB 0448 - Prearrest Diversion Programs by Senator Brandes](#)

Prearrest Diversion Programs; Encouraging local communities and public or private educational institutions to implement prearrest diversion programs for certain offenders; authorizing law enforcement officers, at their sole discretion, to issue a civil citation or similar prearrest diversion program notice to adults under specified circumstances; requiring an adult who is issued a civil citation or similar prearrest diversion program notice by a participating law enforcement agency to report for intake as required by the prearrest diversion program, etc.

## [HB 0539 - Hospice Care by Representative Harrell](#)

Revises deadline for certain rule adoptions by DEA, in conjunction with AHCA; requires department, in conjunction with agency, to adopt certain hospice outcome measures & make such measures public; authorizes hospice or certain entities to provide palliative care to seriously ill patient; authorizes hospice to assist in disposal of certain prescribed controlled substances; provides requirements for such disposals; revises confidentiality provisions for certain patient records.

## [SB 0570 - Public Assistance by Senator Rouson](#)

Public Assistance; Revising penalties for noncompliance with work requirements for temporary cash assistance; requiring the Department of Economic Opportunity, in cooperation with CareerSource Florida, Inc., and the Department of Children and Families, to develop and implement a work plan agreement for participants in the temporary cash assistance program; requiring the Department of Children and Families to impose a replacement fee for electronic benefits transfer cards under certain circumstances, etc. APPROPRIATION: Indeterminate.

# National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter 2017 Bills

## [SB 0578 - Conversion Therapy by Senator Clemens \(J\)](#)

Conversion Therapy; Prohibiting a person who is licensed to provide professional counseling or a practitioner who is licensed under provisions regulating the practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine, psychology, clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, or mental health counseling from practicing or performing conversion therapy with an individual who is younger than a specified age, etc.

## [HB 0581 - Family Self-Sufficiency by Representative White](#)

Authorizes changes to public assistance policy & federal food assistance waivers to conform to federal law & simplify administration; establishes food assistance program eligibility standards for initial applications & recertifications after January 1, 2018; requires DCF to implement asset verification service to verify eligibility for public assistance; requires CareerSource Florida, Inc., to contract with vendor to develop pilot program to increase employment among certain persons receiving temporary cash assistance; provides appropriations.

## [HB 0623 - Prohibited Discrimination by Representative Diamond](#)

Provides that sexual orientation & gender identity are impermissible grounds for discrimination in public lodging establishments & public food service establishments; revises provisions of Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 and Fair Housing Act to include sexual orientation & gender identity, provides exception for constitutionally protected free exercise of religion.

## [HB 0665 - Human Trafficking Education in Schools by Representative Spano](#)

Revises required health education in public schools to include information regarding dangers & signs of human trafficking.

## [SB 0666 - Prohibited Discrimination by Senator Clemens \(J\)](#)

Prohibited Discrimination; Citing this act as the "Florida Competitive Workforce Act;" adding sexual orientation and gender identity as impermissible grounds for discrimination in public lodging establishments and public food service establishments; defining the terms "gender identity" and "sexual orientation"; adding sexual orientation and gender identity as impermissible grounds for discrimination with respect to the sale or rental of housing, provision of brokerage services, financing of housing or in residential real estate transactions, and land use decisions and in permitting of development, respectively, etc.

## [SB 0754 - Trauma-informed Services For Children by Senator Steube](#)

Trauma-informed Services for Children; Prohibiting a child who has suffered sexual exploitation from being placed in a generic shelter setting when safe-harbor or trauma-informed housing is not available, etc.

## [HB 0795 - Student Loan Forgiveness Program by Representative Jones](#)

Creates Student Loan Forgiveness Program; provides for administration of program, eligibility requirements, funding, payment of student loan, & loan requirements; provides that payment under the program is not taxable income.

## [HB 0821 - Patient's Choice of Providers by Representative Massullo, Jr.](#)

Prohibits health insurer from excluding willing & qualified health care provider from participating in health insurer's provider network under certain circumstances.

## [SB 0852 - Human Trafficking by Senator Garcia](#)

Human Trafficking; Requiring the Department of Children and Families or a sheriff's office to conduct a multidisciplinary staffing on child victims of commercial sexual exploitation to determine the child's service and placement needs; defining the term "commercial sexual exploitation"; adding human trafficking to the list of crimes requiring pretrial detention of the defendant, etc.

# National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter 2017 Bills

## [SB 0876 - Programs For Impaired Health Care Practitioners by Senator Young](#)

Programs for Impaired Health Care Practitioners; Revising provisions related to impaired practitioner programs; deleting a requirement authorizing the department to adopt by rule the manner in which consultants work with the department in intervention, in evaluating and treating professionals, in providing and monitoring continued care of impaired professionals, and in expelling professionals from the program; providing that, under certain circumstances, a board or, if there is no board, the department, is not required to refuse to admit certain candidates to an examination, to issue a license, certificate, or registration to certain applicants, or to renew a license, certificate, or registration of certain applicants if they have successfully completed a pretrial diversion program, etc.

## [SB 0892 - Youthful Offenders by Senator Simmons](#)

Youthful Offenders; Revising the criteria allowing a court to sentence as a youthful offender a person who is found guilty of, or who pled nolo contendere or guilty to, committing a felony before the person turned 21 years of age, etc.

## [HB 0995 - Tax Incentive to Hire Veterans by Representative Silvers](#)

Creates "Florida Veterans Employment Act" to provide tax credit for hiring veterans & to establish additional credit for hiring disabled veterans; provides cap on total tax credits per calendar year; authorizes DOR to establish guidelines & to adopt emergency rules; revises "adjusted federal income" to include tax credit.

## [SB 1044 - Child Welfare by Senator Garcia](#)

Child Welfare; Providing that central abuse hotline information may be used for employment screening of residential group home caregivers; requiring a court to inquire as to the identity and location of a child's legal father at the shelter hearing; requiring a court to consider maltreatment allegations against a parent in an evidentiary hearing relating to a dependency petition; requiring a court to conduct under oath the inquiry to determine the identity or location of an unknown parent after the filing of a termination of parental rights petition; providing a requirement for an identification card for certified unaccompanied or homeless youth, etc.

## [SB 1142 - Tax Credit for Hiring Veterans by Senator Artiles](#)

Tax Credit for Hiring Veterans; Citing this act as the "Florida Veterans Employment Act"; establishing a tax credit for hiring veterans; establishing an additional credit for hiring disabled veterans; revising the order in which credits against the corporate income tax or franchise tax may be taken to include credits for hiring veterans; revising the term "adjusted federal income" to include certain tax credits taken relating to hiring veterans, etc.

## [SB 1154 - Student Loan Forgiveness Program by Senator Farmer](#)

Student Loan Forgiveness Program; Creating the Student Loan Forgiveness Program; providing that a payment under the program is not taxable income, etc.

## [SB 1174 - Marriage Equality by Senator Farmer](#)

Marriage Equality; Repealing provisions relating to marriages between persons of the same sex; removing a prohibition on the recognition of marriages entered into between persons of the same sex in this state, another state, or another jurisdiction, either domestic or foreign, etc.

## [SB 1182 - Rape Crisis Centers by Senator Book](#)

Rape Crisis Centers; Revising the definitions of the terms "rape crisis center" and "trained volunteer", etc.

# National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter 2017 Bills

## [HB 1279 - Child Psychological Abuse by Representative Antone](#)

Revises definition of "harm" & provision relating to mandatory reporting requirements for child abuse, abandonment, & neglect to include child psychological abuse; requires Board of Psychology within DOH to revise continuing education requirements for renewal of license to practice psychology to include child psychological abuse.

## [HB 1327 - Behavioral Health Services by Representative Peters](#)

Authorizes DCF to approve receiving systems for behavioral health care; requires DCF to post certain data on its website; creates Substance Abuse & Mental Health (SAMH) Safety Net Network; provides for DCF & AHCA to determine scope of services offered; requires AHCA to contract with managing entities or their representatives to implement delivery of community mental health & substance abuse services to certain Medicaid-eligible individuals; provides for determination of rates for services & development of payment mechanisms; specifies that certain court hearings must be scheduled within 5 court working days unless continuance is granted; provides for AHCA to seek certain federal matching funds.

## [SB 1342 - Child Psychological Abuse by Senator Torres, Jr.](#)

Child Psychological Abuse; Revising the definition of the term "harm"; revising a provision relating to mandatory reporting requirements for child abuse, abandonment, or neglect to include child psychological abuse, etc.

## [HB 1383 - Human Trafficking by Representative Nunez](#)

Requires DCF to conduct multidisciplinary staffing on child victims of sexual exploitation to determine child's service & placement needs; requires case plan for victims of child sexual exploitation; requires department to follow up on all victims of child sexual exploitation who are not dependents within specified timeframe; requires department to assess local service capacity.

## [SB 1400 - Child Welfare by Senator Grimsley](#)

Child Welfare; Requiring a parent whose actions have caused harm to a child who is adjudicated to be dependent to submit to a substance abuse disorder assessment or evaluation and to participate in and comply with treatment and services; requiring the Department of Health to establish a hormonal long-acting reversible contraception (HLARC) program; requiring the Department of Children and Families to develop or adopt one or more initial screening assessment instruments to identify and determine the needs of, and plan services for, substance exposed newborns and their families, etc. APPROPRIATION: \$750,000.00.

## [SB 1680 - Child Welfare by Senator Baxley and Steube](#)

Extending court jurisdiction to age 22 for young adults with disabilities in foster care; requiring a transition plan to be approved before a child reaches 18 years of age; requiring the Department of Children and Families, in collaboration with certain entities, to develop a statewide quality rating system for residential group care providers and foster homes, etc.

## [SB 1756 - Examination and Treatment of Individuals with Mental Illness by Senator Garcia](#)

Examination and Treatment of Individuals with Mental Illness; Providing responsibilities of the Department of Children and Families for a comprehensive statewide mental health and substance abuse program; revising rights of individuals receiving mental health treatment and services to provide for the use of health care surrogates or proxies to make decisions; designated receiving facilities to permit access authority to an agency designated by the Governor to serve as the federally mandated protection and advocacy system for individuals with disabilities, etc.

## [HB 7011 - Health Care Access by Health Quality Subcommittee](#)

Allows independent advanced practice registered nurses who meet certain criteria to practice advanced or specialized nursing without physician supervision or protocol by registering with Board of Nursing; authorizes Florida-licensed health care professionals to use telehealth; provides standards of care; creates tax credit for health insurers & HMOs that cover telehealth services; provides appropriation.

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