

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
JACKSONVILLE DIVISION**

CHIANNE D.; C.D., by and through  
her mother and next friend, Chianne D.;  
A.V., by and through her mother  
and next friend, Jennifer V.; KIMBER  
TAYLOR; and K.H., by and through his  
mother and next friend, Kimber Taylor,

Plaintiffs,

-vs-

Case No. 3:23-cv-985-MMH-LLL

SHEVAUN HARRIS, in her official  
capacity as Secretary for the FLORIDA  
AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE  
ADMINISTRATION, and TAYLOR  
HATCH, in her official capacity as  
Secretary for the FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES,

Defendants.

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**ORDER**

**THIS CAUSE** is before the Court on Defendants' Time-Sensitive Motion to Stay Pending Appeal and Alternative Motion for Extension of Time and Clarification (Doc. 193; Motion), filed on February 18, 2026, at 9:35 p.m. In the

Motion, Defendants ask the Court to stay the injunctive provisions set forth in the Court's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law (Doc. 186; Injunction) pending resolution of Defendant's appeal. See Motion at 1; see also Injunction at 271-73, entered January 6, 2026; Defendants' Notice of Appeal (Doc. 191), filed February 5, 2026. Alternatively, Defendants ask for an extension of time from March 9 to April 29, 2026, to send the corrective notices mandated by the Injunction. See Motion at 1-2. Defendants also seek clarification on whether a 90-day regulatory deadline for resolution applies to fair hearing requests by Class Members challenging termination based upon notices provided pursuant to the Injunction. Id. at 2.

Plainly, the Court has not had sufficient time to consider the merits of the Motion, nor have Plaintiffs had a fair opportunity to respond to the Motion. Thus, at this time, the Court takes up only Defendants' request that the Court rule on this Motion by February 25, 2026. See Motion at 2. As noted above, the Court entered the Injunction on January 6, 2026. Having allowed themselves six full weeks to file the instant "time-sensitive" Motion, it is somewhat astounding that Defendants would ask the Court to rule on it within seven days. Indeed, given the need to allow a response, Defendants' proposal leaves the Court no more than a day or two to resolve the matter once ripe. Notably, Defendants make no effort to justify or explain why they waited so long to seek a stay.

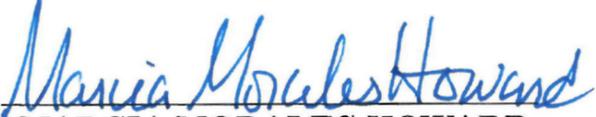
The Court recognizes that the Injunction's deadlines are "fast-approaching," but it was Defendants' decision to wait six weeks to file their Motion, leaving no time for a thorough response, much less a reasoned ruling from the Court. See Motion at 2. As such, the Court rejects Defendants' request for a ruling in the unreasonable timeframe of its own making. Nonetheless, the Court is persuaded from a preliminary review of the Motion that a brief extension of the corrective notice and reinstatement deadlines is warranted until the Motion to Stay can be resolved on the merits. In light of the foregoing, it is

**ORDERED:**

1. Defendants' Time-Sensitive Motion to Stay Pending Appeal and Alternative Motion for Extension of Time and Clarification (Doc. 193) is **TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT**.
2. Plaintiffs shall file a response to the Motion on or before **noon on March 2, 2026**.

3. The State's deadline to provide corrective notice, as set forth in paragraph 6 on page 272 of the Court's Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law (Doc. 186), is extended to **April 3, 2026**. The deadline for reinstatement absent corrective notice, as set forth in paragraph 7 on page 273 of the Court's Findings, is extended to **April 7, 2026**.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Jacksonville, Florida this 23rd day of February, 2026.

  
**MARCIA MORALES HOWARD**  
United States District Judge

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Copies to:  
Counsel of Record