

By Representative Dawson-White

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to welfare reform; amending s.
3 414.065, F.S.; increasing the age of children
4 for whom certain parents' inability to obtain
5 child care creates an exception from penalties
6 for noncompliance with work requirements under
7 the WAGES Program; providing an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section
12 414.065, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to
13 read:

14 414.065 Work requirements.--

15 (7) EXCEPTIONS TO NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.--The
16 situations listed in this subsection shall constitute
17 exceptions to the penalties for noncompliance with
18 participation requirements, except that these situations do
19 not constitute exceptions to the applicable time limit for
20 receipt of assistance:

21 (a) Noncompliance related to child care.--Assistance
22 shall not be terminated for refusal to participate in work
23 activities if the individual is a single custodial parent
24 caring for a child who has not attained 12 ~~6~~ years of age, and
25 the adult proves to the department an inability to obtain
26 needed child care for one or more of the following reasons:

27 1. Unavailability of appropriate child care within a
28 reasonable distance from the individual's home or worksite.

29 2. Unavailability or unsuitability of informal child
30 care by a relative or under other arrangements.

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