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An act relating

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to welfare reform; amending s. 414.065, F.S.; increasing the age of children for whom certain parents' inability to obtain child care creates an exception from penalties for noncompliance with work requirements under the WAGES Program; providing an effective date.

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

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

414.065 Work requirements.--

- (7) EXCEPTIONS TO NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.--The situations listed in this subsection shall constitute exceptions to the penalties for noncompliance with participation requirements, except that these situations do not constitute exceptions to the applicable time limit for receipt of assistance:
- (a) Noncompliance related to child care.—Assistance shall not be terminated for refusal to participate in work activities if the individual is a single custodial parent caring for a child who has not attained $\underline{10}$ 6 years of age, and the adult proves to the department an inability to obtain needed child care for one or more of the following reasons:
- 1. Unavailability of appropriate child care within a reasonable distance from the individual's home or worksite.
- 2. Unavailability or unsuitability of informal child care by a relative or under other arrangements.

1	3. Unavailability of appropriate and affordable formal
2	child care arrangements.
3	Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
4	law.
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7	HOUSE SUMMARY
8	Revises an exemption from termination of assistance under
9	Revises an exemption from termination of assistance under the WAGES Program for single custodial parents who refuse to participate in work requirements due to an inability
10	to obtain child care, to allow the exemption when the child is under 10, rather than under 6, years of age.
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