HB 1179 2005

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to eligibility for Medicaid payments; amending s. 409.903, F.S.; increasing the income level at which a pregnant woman is eligible to receive Medicaid services; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 409.903, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.903 Mandatory payments for eligible persons.--The agency shall make payments for medical assistance and related services on behalf of the following persons who the department, or the Social Security Administration by contract with the Department of Children and Family Services, determines to be eligible, subject to the income, assets, and categorical eligibility tests set forth in federal and state law. Payment on behalf of these Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations established by the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(5) A pregnant woman for the duration of her pregnancy and for the postpartum period as defined in federal law and rule, or a child under age 1, if either is living in a family that has an income which is at or below 150 percent of the most current federal poverty level, or, effective January 1, 1992, that has an income which is at or below 185 percent of the most current federal poverty level. Such a person is not subject to an assets test. Further, a pregnant woman who applies for eligibility for

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the Medicaid program through a qualified Medicaid provider must be offered the opportunity, subject to federal rules, to be made presumptively eligible for the Medicaid program. Effective July 1, 2005, eligibility for Medicaid services is eliminated for women who have incomes above <u>185</u> 150 percent of the most current federal poverty level.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.