

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to maternal and child health programs;
 3 amending s. 383.011, F.S.; requiring the Department of
 4 Health, in administering the Special Supplemental
 5 Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC),
 6 to compare the costs of food items redeemed by certain
 7 vendors for purposes of meeting certain federal
 8 requirements; requiring vendors to record prices on the
 9 WIC voucher; prohibiting the department from discontinuing
 10 certain generic products under certain circumstances;
 11 restricting the funding of the program to federal funds;
 12 providing for submission of budget amendments by the
 13 department; amending s. 409.942, F.S.; requiring the
 14 department to establish an electronic benefit transfer
 15 program to distribute WIC benefits; requiring the
 16 department to collaborate with the Department of Children
 17 and Family Services in developing the program and pay all
 18 costs associated therewith; providing an effective date.

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

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 22 Section 1. Subsection (3) is added to section 383.011,
 23 Florida Statutes, to read:

24 383.011 Administration of maternal and child health
 25 programs.--

26 (3) In administering the WIC program, the Department of
 27 Health:

28 (a) For purposes of meeting the federal cost neutrality
29 requirement of 7 C.F.R. part 246, shall compare the average cost
30 of each food item redeemed by above-50-percent vendors against
31 the average cost of the same food item redeemed by regular
32 vendors. The department shall collect individual food item
33 redemption costs by requiring authorized vendors to record the
34 price of each redeemed item on the WIC voucher.

35 (b) May not discontinue a WIC-eligible generic product
36 unless the product no longer meets the nutritional guidelines of
37 the WIC program.

38 (c) Shall only expend funds provided by the Federal
39 Government for the administration of the program. In the event
40 the department exceeds the federal funding allocation, the
41 department may submit a budget amendment to the Executive Office
42 of the Governor requesting additional trust fund authority to
43 implement the program pursuant to s. 216.181(11).

44 Section 2. Section 409.942, Florida Statutes, is amended
45 to read:

46 409.942 Electronic benefit transfer program.--

47 (1) The Department of Children and Family Services shall
48 establish an electronic benefit transfer program for the
49 dissemination of food stamp benefits and temporary assistance
50 payments, including refugee cash assistance payments, asylum
51 applicant payments, and child support disregard payments. If the
52 Federal Government does not enact legislation or regulations
53 providing for dissemination of supplemental security income by
54 electronic benefit transfer, the state may include supplemental
55 security income in the electronic benefit transfer program.

56 (a)~~(2)~~ The department shall, in accordance with applicable
57 federal laws and regulations, develop minimum program
58 requirements and other policy initiatives for the electronic
59 benefit transfer program.

60 (b)~~(3)~~ The department shall enter into public-private
61 contracts for all provisions of electronic transfer of public
62 assistance benefits.

63 (2)~~(4)~~ Workforce Florida, Inc., through the Agency for
64 Workforce Innovation, shall establish an electronic benefit
65 transfer program for the use and management of education,
66 training, child care, transportation, and other program benefits
67 under its direction. The workforce electronic benefit transfer
68 program shall fulfill all federal and state requirements for
69 Individual Training Accounts, Retention Incentive Training
70 Accounts, Individual Development Accounts, and Individual
71 Services Accounts. The workforce electronic benefit transfer
72 program shall be designed to enable an individual who receives
73 an electronic benefit transfer card under subsection (1) to use
74 that card for purposes of benefits provided under the workforce
75 development system as well. The Department of Children and
76 Family Services shall assist Workforce Florida, Inc., in
77 developing an electronic benefit transfer program for the
78 workforce development system that is fully compatible with the
79 department's electronic benefit transfer program. The agency
80 shall reimburse the department for all costs incurred in
81 providing such assistance and shall pay all costs for the
82 development of the workforce electronic benefit transfer
83 program.

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84 (3) By July 1, 2010, the Department of Health shall
85 establish a statewide electronic benefit transfer program for
86 the distribution of benefits under the "Special Supplemental
87 Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children," or WIC,
88 authorized by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended.

89 (a) The WIC electronic benefit transfer program shall be
90 designed to enable an individual who receives an electronic
91 benefit transfer card under subsection (1) or subsection (2) to
92 use that card for purposes of benefits provided under the WIC
93 program.

94 (b) The Department of Children and Family Services shall
95 assist the Department of Health in developing an electronic
96 benefit transfer program for the WIC program that is fully
97 compatible with the electronic benefit transfer programs
98 operated by the Department of Children and Family Services and
99 Workforce Florida, Inc. The Department of Health shall reimburse
100 the Department of Children and Family Services for all costs
101 incurred in providing such assistance and shall pay all costs
102 for the development of the WIC electronic benefit transfer
103 program.

104 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.