

By Senator Abruzzo

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Temporary Assistance for Needy
3 Families State Plan; providing for the use of funds
4 provided under the plan for the purchase of disposable
5 diapers by parents receiving financial assistance
6 under certain conditions and consistent with federal
7 law; providing an effective date.
8
9 WHEREAS, existing law requires each county to provide cash
10 assistance and other social services to needy families through
11 the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State Plan, and
12 WHEREAS, existing federal law classifies diapers, together
13 with cigarettes and alcohol, as disallowed purchases under the
14 Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and
15 Children, and
16 WHEREAS, low-income parents cannot take advantage of
17 subsidized child care if they cannot afford to provide
18 disposable diapers as required by most child care centers, and
19 WHEREAS, without access to child care, these parents are
20 less able to attend work or school on a consistent basis,
21 leading to increased economic instability, and
22 WHEREAS, lack of sufficient diapers can lead to multiple
23 problems for families in need, including unhappy babies,
24 unhealthy communities, undereducated toddlers, and underemployed
25 adults, and
26 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to enact
27 legislation that will empower families that receive public
28 assistance and who have children who are wearing diapers to
29 return to the workforce by removing obstacles to obtaining

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30 diapers to the extent permitted by federal law, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

33
34 Section 1. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State
35 Plan.—The Department of Children and Families shall amend the
36 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State Plan, submitted in
37 accordance with s. 402 of the Social Security Act, as amended,
38 42 U.S.C. s. 602, to provide for the use of funds for the
39 purchase of disposable diapers by parents receiving assistance
40 through the plan, subject to the availability of moneys and the
41 limitations established by the General Appropriations Act.

42 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.