

By Senator Berman

26-00163B-25

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to use of campaign funds for child
3 care expenses; amending s. 106.1405, F.S.; defining
4 terms; authorizing a candidate to use funds on deposit
5 in his or her campaign account to pay for child care
6 expenses under specified conditions; requiring
7 candidates to maintain specified records for a
8 specified timeframe and provide such records to the
9 Division of Elections; requiring candidates to
10 disclose certain child care expenses in campaign
11 finance reports; providing an effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Section 106.1405, Florida Statutes, is amended
16 to read:

17 106.1405 Use of campaign funds.—

18 (1) As used in this section, the term:

19 (a) "Campaign-related child care expenses" means the costs
20 associated with the care of a candidate's dependent child due to
21 campaign activities, such as participating in campaign events,
22 canvassing, participating in debates, and meeting with
23 constituents or donors.

24 (b) "Eligible child care provider" means any individual or
25 licensed organization.

26 (2) A candidate or the spouse of a candidate may not use
27 funds on deposit in a campaign account of such candidate to
28 defray normal living expenses for the candidate or the
29 candidate's family, other than expenses actually incurred for

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30 transportation, meals, and lodging by the candidate or a family
31 member during travel in the course of the campaign.

32 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a candidate may use
33 funds on deposit in his or her campaign account to pay for
34 campaign-related child care expenses if the expense would not
35 exist were it not for the candidate's campaign and the following
36 conditions are met:

37 (a) Campaign funds may not be used for child care expenses
38 unrelated to campaign activities, such as personal errands or
39 routine child care unrelated to campaigning.

40 (b) The candidate maintains and provides to the division
41 clear records of all child care expenses reimbursed by campaign
42 funds, including dates, times, and descriptions of campaign
43 events engaged in.

44 1. Receipts or invoices from the eligible child care
45 provider, along with proof of payment, must be maintained for
46 auditing purposes for at least 3 years after the campaign ends.

47 2. A candidate shall disclose the use of campaign funds for
48 child care in his or her regular campaign finance reports,
49 specifying the amounts and dates of child care expenses.

50 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.