

By Senator Smith

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to medical coverage assistance program for working individuals with disabilities; providing a short title; creating s. 409.9141, F.S.; contingent upon federal approval, requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement and administer a Medicaid buy-in program for specified individuals with disabilities under certain circumstances; requiring the agency to determine the income eligibility level for the program; specifying requirements for the program; requiring the agency to seek federal approval through a Medicaid waiver or state plan amendment by a specified date; requiring the agency to implement and administer the program upon receiving federal approval; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Economic Self-Sufficiency for Working Individuals with Disabilities Act."

Section 2. Section 409.9141, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

409.9141 Medicaid buy-in program for individuals with disabilities.—

(1) (a) Contingent upon federal approval through a Medicaid waiver or state plan amendment, the agency shall implement and administer a Medicaid buy-in program, authorized under the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, Pub. L. No. 106-170, and the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Pub. L. No.

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30 105-33, for individuals with disabilities between 18 and 64
31 years of age who work and whose incomes exceed the maximum
32 income eligibility level for initial enrollment to obtain
33 coverage for medical assistance under the Medicaid program. The
34 agency shall determine the new income eligibility level for such
35 individuals.

36 (b) The Medicaid buy-in program under paragraph (a) must
37 provide full Medicaid benefits to eligible individuals and limit
38 any premium or cost sharing to a percentage of an individual's
39 income, as determined by the agency.

40 (2) By October 1, 2026, the agency shall seek federal
41 approval through a Medicaid waiver or state plan amendment as
42 necessary to implement the Medicaid buy-in program under this
43 section. The agency shall implement and administer the Medicaid
44 buy-in program upon receiving federal approval.

45 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.