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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat diapers as qualified medical expenses; and to prohibit States and local governments to impose a tax on the retail sale of diapers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat diapers as qualified medical expenses; and to prohibit States and local governments to impose a tax on the retail sale of diapers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Diaper Af-
5 fordability Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Diapers are an essential need for the health
2 and hygiene of babies and toddlers.

3 (2) Families without adequate access to diapers
4 face a higher risk of poor health outcomes for their
5 children, including diaper rash, severe dermatitis, in-
6 fections, and hospitalization, while also posing a sig-
7 nificant risk to maternal mental health.

8 (3) Families with diaper need lack a sufficient
9 supply of diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean,
10 dry, and healthy.

11 (4) 46 percent of families with children age 4
12 or below struggle to provide the diapers their chil-
13 dren need; this is an increase from 1 in 3 families
14 expressing diaper need before the COVID-19 pan-
15 demic.

16 (5) Low income families make up 2 out of 3
17 families with diaper need; a disproportionate amount
18 of these families are Black or Latino.

19 (6) Annually, families spend between \$945 and
20 \$1,500 on diapers for a child under age 4; a low-
21 income family of 4 spends 2.6 times more of their
22 income on diaper costs compared to a family of 4
23 making median income.

24 (7) Diaper need affects not only the health and
25 well-being of the child but it can affect the economic

1 security of the entire family, forcing families with di-
2 aper need to cut back on food purchases and per-
3 sonal savings.

4 (8) 25 percent of parents and caregivers with
5 diaper need reported having to miss work or school
6 because they did not have enough diapers to drop
7 their child off at childcare, and reported missing, on
8 average, 5.1 workdays in the past 30 days; this rep-
9 resents a loss of \$296 per month for a parent earn-
10 ing the Federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.

11 (9) No permanent State or Federal child safety-
12 net program allocates dollars specifically for the pur-
13 chase of diapers.

14 **SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF DIAPERS AS QUALIFIED MEDICAL**
15 **EXPENSES.**

16 (a) HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.—Section
17 223(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amend-
18 ed by adding at the end of subparagraph (A) the following:
19 “Notwithstanding the first sentence, amounts paid for dia-
20 pers shall be treated as paid for medical care.”.

21 (b) ARCHER MSAS.—Section 220(d)(2)(A) of such
22 Code is amended by adding at the end the following: “Not-
23 withstanding the first sentence, amounts paid for diapers
24 shall be treated as paid for medical care.”.

1 (c) HEALTH FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS
2 AND HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENTS.—Sec-
3 tion 106 of such Code is amended by adding at the end
4 the following new subsection:

5 “(h) REIMBURSEMENTS FOR DIAPERS.—For pur-
6 poses of this section and section 105, expenses incurred
7 for diapers shall be treated as incurred for medical care.”.

8 (d) DEPENDENT CARE ASSISTANCE AND DEPEND-
9 ENT CARE FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS.—Sec-
10 tion 129(e)(1) of such Code is amended by adding at the
11 end the following: “Such term shall include expenses in-
12 curred for diapers.”.

13 (e) LIMITED PURPOSE FLEXIBLE SPENDING AR-
14 RANGEMENTS AND HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGE-
15 MENTS.—Section 223(c)(1)(B) of such Code is amended
16 by striking “and” at the end of clause (ii), by striking
17 the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting “, and”,
18 and by adding at the end the following new clause:

19 “(iv) coverage under a flexible spend-
20 ing arrangement, or health reimbursement
21 arrangement, that pays or reimburses for
22 coverage described in clause (ii) (other
23 than long-term care services and, in the
24 case of a flexible spending arrangement,
25 other than through insurance). Coverage

1 shall not fail to be treated as coverage de-
2 scribed in the preceding sentence solely by
3 reason of paying or reimbursing expenses
4 incurred for diapers.”.

5 (f) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

6 (1) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM HEALTH SAVINGS AC-
7 COUNTS.—The amendments made by subsections (a)
8 and (b) shall apply to amounts paid after December
9 31, 2024.

10 (2) REIMBURSEMENTS.—The amendment made
11 by subsections (c) and (d) shall apply to expenses in-
12 curred after December 31, 2024.

13 (3) LIMITED PURPOSE HSA AND HRA.—The
14 amendments made by subsection (e) shall apply to
15 months beginning after December 31, 2024.

16 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION OF RETAIL SALES TAXES.**

17 A State, or unit of local government of a State, may
18 not impose a sales and use tax on the retail purchase of
19 diapers.