

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3842

To amend title VI of the Social Security Act to permit State and local coronavirus fiscal recovery funds to be used to address increased costs of essential items.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2022

Mr. WARNOCK introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title VI of the Social Security Act to permit State and local coronavirus fiscal recovery funds to be used to address increased costs of essential items.

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 “Relief for Families Act
5 of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO USE STATE AND LOCAL**
2 **CORONAVIRUS FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS TO**
3 **ADDRESS INCREASED COSTS OF ESSENTIAL**
4 **ITEMS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 602(c)(1) and 603(c)(1)
6 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 802(c)(1),
7 803(c)(1)) are each amended—

8 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or” after
9 the semicolon;

10 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
11 at the end and inserting “; or”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(E) to address increased costs of essential
14 items, including clothing or footwear that does
15 not exceed \$100 per item of clothing or pair of
16 footwear, food (other than alcoholic beverages),
17 diapers, feminine hygiene products, prescription
18 and over-the-counter medicine, items to prepare
19 for natural disasters or severe weather, school
20 supplies, and energy efficient appliances, by
21 providing a temporary suspension of sales taxes
22 or similar temporary sales tax relief for the
23 purchase of such items that—

24 “(i) is for a period of not less than 3
25 days, and not more than 3 months;

1 “(ii) begins after a minimum 2-week
2 notice period; and

3 “(iii) occurs during the 12-month pe-
4 riod that begins on the day after the date
5 of enactment of this subparagraph.”.

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
7 602(c)(2)(A) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 802(c)(2)(A)) is
8 amended by striking “A State or territory” and inserting
9 “Except as permitted under paragraph (1)(E), a State or
10 territory”.

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