

House Bill 25

By: Representatives Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>, Davis of the 87<sup>th</sup>, and Schofield of the 63<sup>rd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to public assistance generally, so as to provide for the submission of a waiver request  
3 by the Department of Human Services to permit the recipients of certain public assistance  
4 benefits to use such benefits for the purpose of purchasing diapers or menstrual hygiene  
5 products if the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service makes  
6 such waiver available to states; to provide for related matters; to provide for a short title; to  
7 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Dignity is Essential Act."

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
13 public assistance generally, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

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14 "49-4-23.

15 If the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service creates and  
16 makes available to the states a waiver permitting recipients of benefits provided under the  
17 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program  
18 for Women, Infants, and Children to use their benefits to purchase diapers or menstrual  
19 hygiene products, such as tampons, sanitary napkins, and feminine wipes, then the  
20 Department of Human Services shall apply for such waiver. If the United States  
21 Department of Agriculture approves such waiver application, then the Department of  
22 Human Services shall adopt rules and make other changes as necessary to implement the  
23 approved waiver."

24

### **SECTION 3.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.