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14 A BILL
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18 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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23 To prohibit the Mayor from placing restrictions on the square footage, number of cashiers, or
24 organic products for vendors of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women,
25 Infants, and Children (WIC) beyond what is required by the U.S. Department of
26 Agriculture; to require the Mayor to report on WIC spending over the past five years and
27 challenges and recommendations for small stores to become authorized WIC vendors; to
28 require the Department of Health to coordinate with the Department of Health Care
29 Finance and the Department of Human Services to conduct targeted outreach to WIC-
30 eligible families not enrolled in WIC; and to require the Department of Health to convene
31 a WIC Outreach Advisory Board to provide guidance on how to increase WIC
32 participation.
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34 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
35 act may be cited as the “Women, Infants, and Children Program Expansion Act of 2018”.

36 Sec. 2. Expanding Access to WIC.

37 (a) For the purposes of this section, the term “WIC” means the Special Supplemental
38 Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, as provided in section 17 of the Child
39 Nutrition Act of 1966, approved September 26, 1972 (86 Stat. 729; 42 U.S.C. § 1786).

40 (b) After June 1, 2018, the Mayor shall not:

41 (1) Set a square footage requirement for vendors of WIC benefits beyond what is
42 required by the U.S. Department of Agriculture;

43 (2) Require that vendors of WIC benefits have a minimum number of cashiers
44 beyond what is required by the U.S. Department of Agriculture; or

45 (3) Prohibit organic products from the WIC program that are permitted by the
46 U.S. Department of Agriculture.

47 (c) Within one year after the effective date of the Women, Infants, and Children Program
48 Expansion Act of 2018, as introduced on DATE (Bill 22-XXX), the Mayor shall submit one or
49 more reports on the following:

50 (1) Data on how WIC funding has been spent from Fiscal Years 2013-2018,
51 including whether the District returned any federal funds and whether the District applied for
52 supplemental federal WIC funds;

53 (2) A plan for assisting more small stores in the District to become WIC vendors,
54 including identifying technical assistance needs, outreach strategies, and any legislative or
55 regulatory barriers to small stores becoming authorized WIC vendors.

56 (d) The Department of Health shall coordinate with the Department of Health Care
57 Finance to match data on children ages 0-5 who are enrolled in Medicaid but not WIC, and
58 conduct targeted outreach to the caregivers of these children providing guidance on how to apply
59 for WIC.

60 (e) The Department of Health shall coordinate with the Department of Human Services to
61 match data on children ages 0-5 who are enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
62 Program but not WIC, and conduct targeted outreach to the caregivers of these children
63 providing guidance on how to apply for WIC.

64 (f) The Department of Health shall convene a WIC Outreach Advisory Board that will
65 meet at least quarterly and include, but not be limited to, representatives from super markets,
66 healthy corner stores, non-profit organizations, healthcare providers, and early childcare
67 providers to help the agency develop strategies to increase WIC participation and improve
68 participant experience.

69 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

70 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
71 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
72 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

73 Sec. 4. Effective date.

74 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
75 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
76 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
77 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
78 Columbia Register.