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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the Swimming Lesson Voucher
3	Program; creating s. 514.073, F.S.; creating the
4	program within the Department of Health for a
5	specified purpose; requiring the department to
6	contract with and establish a network of swimming
7	lesson vendors to participate in the program;
8	requiring the department to attempt to secure a vendor
9	in each county; requiring certain vendors to
10	participate in the program if requested by the
11	department; requiring the department to establish an
12	application process; specifying eligibility criteria
13	for the program; providing that the program is subject
14	to specific appropriation; authorizing the department
15	to seek grants or other public and private funding for
16	the program; requiring the department to adopt rules;
17	providing an effective date.
18	
19	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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21	Section 1. Section 514.073, Florida Statutes, is created
22	to read:
23	514.073 Swimming Lesson Voucher Program
24	(1) There is created within the department the Swimming
25	Lesson Voucher Program. The purpose of the program is to
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26 increase water safety in this state by offering vouchers for 27 swimming lessons at no cost to families who have one or more 28 children 4 years of age or younger. 29 (2) The department shall do all of the following to 30 implement the program: (a) Contract with and establish a network of swimming 31 32 lesson vendors that will accept the vouchers offered by the 33 program in exchange for providing swimming lessons. To ensure 34 that the swimming lessons are available throughout this state, 35 the department must attempt to secure at least one such vendor 36 in each county. Any swimming lesson vendor that offers swimming 37 lessons at a public pool that is owned or maintained by a county or municipality must, if requested by the department, 38 39 participate in the program. 40 (b) Establish a method for members of the public to apply 41 for swimming lesson vouchers and for determining an applicant's 42 eligibility. The department shall establish eligibility criteria 43 necessary for a family to receive one or more vouchers from the 44 program, including, but not limited to, the following: 45 The age of each child for whom a voucher is being 1. 46 sought, who may be no more than 4 years of age. 47 2. The family's address of residency in this state. 48 (c) Subject to specific appropriation, issue vouchers to 49 eligible applicants. 50 (3) The department may seek grants or other public or Page 2 of 3

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51	private funding for the program.
52	(4) The department shall adopt rules to implement the
53	program.
54	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.
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