

By Senator Rodriguez

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to eligibility for assistance
3 programs; amending s. 414.095, F.S.; removing
4 provisions authorizing certain benefits to be denied
5 to individuals based solely on certain felony drug
6 trafficking convictions; removing a limitation on the
7 state's opting out of certain federal provisions
8 relating to such benefit eligibility; providing an
9 effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 414.095, Florida
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15 414.095 Determining eligibility for temporary cash
16 assistance.—

17 (1) ELIGIBILITY.—An applicant must meet eligibility
18 requirements of this section before receiving services or
19 temporary cash assistance under this chapter, except that an
20 applicant shall be required to register for work and engage in
21 work activities in accordance with s. 445.024, as designated by
22 the local workforce development board, and may receive support
23 services or child care assistance in conjunction with such
24 requirement. The department shall make a determination of
25 eligibility based on the criteria listed in this chapter. The
26 department shall monitor continued eligibility for temporary
27 cash assistance through periodic reviews consistent with the
28 food assistance eligibility process. Benefits may not be denied
29 to an individual solely based on a felony drug conviction~~7~~

39-00964-22

2022762__

30 ~~unless the conviction is for trafficking pursuant to s. 893.135.~~
31 To be eligible under this section, an individual convicted of a
32 drug felony must be satisfactorily meeting the requirements of
33 the temporary cash assistance program, including all substance
34 abuse treatment requirements. ~~Within the limits specified in~~
35 ~~this chapter,~~ The state opts out of the provision of Pub. L. No.
36 104-193, s. 115, which ~~that~~ eliminates eligibility for temporary
37 cash assistance and food assistance for any individual convicted
38 of a controlled substance felony.
39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.