HB 409 2024

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to temporary cash assistance eligibility; amending s. 414.095, F.S.; removing the prohibition of awarding benefits to a person who has a felony drug conviction for trafficking; removing specified requirements in order for a person convicted of a drug felony to receive benefits; providing an effective date.

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

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

14 414.095 Determining eligibility for temporary cash assistance.—

(1) ELIGIBILITY.—An applicant must meet the eligibility requirements of this section before receiving services or temporary cash assistance under this chapter, except that an applicant is shall be required to register for work and engage in work activities in accordance with s. 445.024, as designated by the local workforce development board, and may receive support services or child care assistance in conjunction with such requirement. The department shall make a determination of eligibility based on the criteria listed in this chapter. The

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department shall monitor continued eligibility for temporary

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cash assistance through periodic reviews consistent with the food assistance eligibility process. Benefits may not be denied to an individual solely based on a felony drug conviction, unless the conviction is for trafficking pursuant to s. 893.135. To be eligible under this section, an individual convicted of a drug felony must be satisfactorily meeting the requirements of the temporary cash assistance program, including all substance abuse treatment requirements. Within the limits specified in this chapter, The state opts out of the provision of Pub. L. No. 104-193, s. 115, that eliminates eligibility for temporary cash assistance and food assistance for any individual convicted of a controlled substance felony.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.