

By Senator Bernard

24-00904A-25

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to temporary cash assistance
3 eligibility; amending s. 414.095, F.S.; removing the
4 prohibition against awarding benefits to a person who
5 has a felony drug conviction for trafficking; removing
6 specified requirements for a person convicted of a
7 drug felony to receive benefits; providing an
8 effective date.

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

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

14 414.095 Determining eligibility for temporary cash
15 assistance.—

16 (1) ELIGIBILITY.—An applicant must meet the eligibility
17 requirements of this section before receiving services or
18 temporary cash assistance under this chapter, except that an
19 applicant is ~~shall be~~ required to register for work and engage
20 in work activities in accordance with s. 445.024, as designated
21 by the local workforce development board, and may receive
22 support services or child care assistance in conjunction with
23 such requirement. The department shall make a determination of
24 eligibility based on the criteria listed in this chapter. The
25 department shall monitor continued eligibility for temporary
26 cash assistance through periodic reviews consistent with the
27 food assistance eligibility process. Benefits may not be denied
28 to an individual solely based on a felony drug conviction. 7
29 ~~unless the conviction is for trafficking pursuant to s. 893.135.~~

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2025828__

30 ~~To be eligible under this section, an individual convicted of a~~
31 ~~drug felony must be satisfactorily meeting the requirements of~~
32 ~~the temporary cash assistance program, including all substance~~
33 ~~abuse treatment requirements. Within the limits specified in~~
34 ~~this chapter,~~ The state opts out of the provision of Pub. L. No.
35 104-193, s. 115, that eliminates eligibility for temporary cash
36 assistance and food assistance for any individual convicted of a
37 controlled substance felony.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.