

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to temporary cash assistance  
3       eligibility; amending s. 414.095, F.S.; providing that  
4       benefits may not be denied to certain individuals  
5       solely on the basis of a drug trafficking conviction;  
6       providing an effective date.

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

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

12       414.095   Determining eligibility for temporary cash  
13       assistance.—

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

26 | to an individual solely based on a felony drug conviction,  
27 | unless the conviction is for trafficking pursuant to s. 893.135.  
28 | An individual may not be denied benefits solely on the basis of  
29 | a drug trafficking conviction pursuant to s. 893.135 if the  
30 | department determines that the individual was a victim of human  
31 | trafficking, as defined in s. 943.0583(1), at the time of the  
32 | offense leading to such conviction. To be eligible under this  
33 | section, an individual convicted of a drug felony must be  
34 | satisfactorily meeting the requirements of the temporary cash  
35 | assistance program, including all substance abuse treatment  
36 | requirements. Within the limits specified in this chapter, the  
37 | state opts out of the provision of Pub. L. No. 104-193, s. 115,  
38 | that eliminates eligibility for temporary cash assistance and  
39 | food assistance for any individual convicted of a controlled  
40 | substance felony.

41 |       **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.