

CS/HB 1267

2026

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

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

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

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 department shall monitor continued eligibility for temporary cash assistance through periodic reviews consistent with the food assistance eligibility process. Benefits may not be denied

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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.