

**By** Senator Bracy Davis

15-00782-26

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to temporary cash assistance eligibility; amending s. 414.095, F.S.; deleting the prohibition against awarding benefits to a person who has a felony drug conviction for trafficking; deleting specified requirements a person convicted of a drug felony must meet to receive benefits; 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 to an individual solely based on a felony drug conviction, unless the conviction is for trafficking pursuant to s. 893.135.

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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, 2026.