

By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and
Senator Bracy Davis

586-02454A-26

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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 persons solely
on the basis of a drug trafficking conviction under
certain circumstances; 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.
An individual may not be denied benefits solely on the basis of
a drug trafficking conviction pursuant to s. 893.135 if the

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conviction was obtained during a period of time in which the department has determined the individual was an active victim of human trafficking, as defined in s. 943.0583(1). 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, 2026.