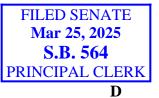
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2025



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SENATE BILL DRS45281-LU-27A

Short Title:	Public Safety Through Food Access Act.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senators Burgin, Mayfield, and Mohammed (Primary Sponsors).	
Referred to:		

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT TO ALLOW THE STATE TO FULLY OPT-OUT OF THE PROHIBITION ON
3	FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES AND TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY
4	FAMILIES (TANF) BENEFITS FOR INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED OF FELONIES TO
5	BETTER ENABLE THOSE INDIVIDUALS TO LIVE SUCCESSFUL, PRODUCTIVE
6	LIVES.
7	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
8	SECTION 1. G.S. 108A-25.2 reads as rewritten:
9	"§ 108A-25.2. Exemption from limitations for individuals convicted of certain drug-related
10	drug related felonies.
11	Individuals convicted of Class H or I controlled substance felony offenses in this State shall
12	be An individual who is otherwise eligible to participate in the Work First Program and or the
13	food and nutrition services program:program shall be exempt from the application of section
14	115(a) of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,
15	P.L. 104-193, and shall not be denied assistance from either program solely because the
16	individual has been convicted of a drug related felony or felonies upon meeting one of the
17	following conditions:
18	(1) Six months after release from custody if no additional controlled substance
19	felony offense is committed during that period and If the individual can
20	demonstrate successful completion of a substance abuse treatment program
21	while in custody or continuous active participation in a required substance
22	abuse treatment program determined appropriate by the area mental health
23	authority; or <u>authority.</u>
24	(2) If not committed to custody, <u>six months immediately after the date of</u>
25	conviction if no additional controlled substance felony offense is committed
26	during that period and the individual can demonstrate successful completion
27	of or continuous active participation in a required substance abuse treatment
28	program determined appropriate by the area mental health authority.
29 20	A county department of social services shall require individuals who are eligible for Work
30 21	First Program assistance and electronic food and nutrition benefits pursuant to this section to
31 32	undergo substance abuse treatment as a condition for receiving Work First Program or electronic food and nutrition benefits, if funds and programs are available and to the extent allowed by
32 33	federal law."
33 34	SECTION 2. This act becomes effective January 1, 2026.
34	SECTION 2. This act becomes effective failuary 1, 2020.

