



# HOUSE BILL 640: Public Assistance Verification Enhancements.

2025-2026 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Judiciary 2. If favorable, re-refer to Health. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 15, 2025
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Rep. Stevens	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Debbie Griffiths
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** House Bill 640 would amend G.S. 108A-55.5 to expand the programs subject to eligibility monitoring including the following:

- *Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) to verify that an individual has resided in a public shelter for at least 30 days or certify that there is no indoor shelter available for the individual prior to making a determination of whether the individual is eligible for work requirement exemption due to homelessness. Notarized documentation from the shelter or public housing authority would be required.*
- *Establishing a procedure for eligibility monitoring for public assistance which is defined to include Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Children, also known as Work First, Medicaid, and public housing assistance provided by a public housing authority including utilization of various state and federal databases.*
- *Allowing site inspections for retailers who accept EBT cards by the Department in coordination with State and federal law enforcement to identify suspicious transaction records or amounts indicating possible trafficking or other criminal conduct.*
- *Requiring the Department to post on its website nonconfidential and nonpersonal data from findings of noncompliance and fraud investigations in the food stamps program, Work First program, and Medicaid program.*
- *Unless required by federal law, prohibiting the Department from accepting self-attestation of required information to determine eligibility or continued eligibility and requiring the Department to verify all conditions of Medicaid eligibility prior to enrollment.*
- *Each public housing authority would be required to submit an annual report to the Attorney General detailing its child support cooperation requirement.*
- *Other conforming changes.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 108A-55.5 addresses the procedure for eligibility monitoring for medical assistance (Medicaid) requirements.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill G.S. 108A-55.5 expand the programs subject to eligibility monitoring including the following changes:

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- Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) to verify that an individual has resided in a public shelter for at least 30 days or certify that there is no indoor shelter available for the individual prior to making a determination of whether the individual is eligible for work requirement exemption due to homelessness. Notarized documentation from the shelter or public housing authority would be required.
- Establishing a procedure for eligibility monitoring for public assistance which is defined to include Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Children, also known as Work First, Medicaid, and public housing assistance provided by a public housing authority including utilization of various state and federal databases.
- Allowing site inspections for retailers who accept EBT cards by the Department in coordination with State and federal law enforcement to identify suspicious transaction records or amounts indicating possible trafficking or other criminal conduct.
- Requiring the Department to post on its website nonconfidential and nonpersonal data from findings of noncompliance and fraud investigations in the food stamps program, Work First program, and Medicaid program.
- Unless required by federal law, prohibiting the Department from accepting self-attestation of required information to determine eligibility or continued eligibility and requiring the Department to verify all conditions of Medicaid eligibility prior to enrollment.
- Each public housing authority would be required to submit an annual report to the Attorney General detailing its child support cooperation requirement.
- Other conforming changes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would become effective January 1, 2026.