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Senate Bill 1006 (Substitute S-2)  
Sponsor: Senator Jim Ananich  
Committee: Families, Seniors, and Veterans

Date Completed: 9-21-20

### **CONTENT**

**The bill would amend the Social Welfare Act to do the following:**

- Specify that provisions prohibiting the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) from granting food assistance to an individual with an outstanding felony warrant would not apply to an individual if he or she had an outstanding felony warrant for a violation of Part 74 (Offenses and Penalties) of the Public Health Code.**
- Specify that a felony conviction for a violation of Part 74 of the Public Health Code would not make an individual ineligible to receive food assistance benefits.**

Under the Act, the DHHS generally may not grant cash assistance to an individual if it receives information that he or she is subject to arrest under an outstanding warrant arising from a felony charge against the individual in this or any other jurisdiction. The Act also prohibits the DHHS from granting food assistance to an individual if he or she has an outstanding felony warrant and law enforcement is actively seeking the individual. Under the bill, these provisions would not apply to an individual applying for food assistance if he or she had an outstanding felony warrant for a violation of Part 74 of the Public Health Code.

The bill also specifies that a felony conviction for a violation of Part 74 of the Public Health Code would not make an individual ineligible to receive food assistance benefits.

(Part 74 of the Public Health Code generally prohibits and prescribes penalties for the unauthorized manufacturing and use of controlled substances, counterfeit substances, and controlled substance analogues, among other things.)

MCL 400.10b et al.

Legislative Analyst: Tyler VanHuyse

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have a negative fiscal impact on the DHHS and no fiscal impact on local units of government. The bill would allow for individuals with drug-related felony warrants and drug-related felony convictions to qualify for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits. The FAP program is entirely Federally funded so, while the bill would require an increase in FAP appropriations, no State-provided funding would be needed. The total Federal authorization increase is uncertain because there is insufficient data as to the number of individuals with drug-related warrants.

The table below shows the estimated average costs had individuals with two or more drug-related felony convictions been eligible for FAP benefits in fiscal year (FY) 2016-17 through FY 2018-19.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>FAP Applicants Denied Benefits for 2+ Drug-Related Felony Convictions</b>	<b>Estimated Average Annual Cost</b>
2016-17	2,920	\$4,240,500
2017-18	2,130	3,138,100
2018-19	1,948	2,785,900

Fiscal Analyst: John Maxwell

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.