

1 SB31  
2 157210-3  
3 By Senator Coleman  
4 RFD: Health and Human Services  
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15  
6 PFD: 02/09/2015

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing federal law in 21 U.S.C.  
9 §862a., a person convicted under federal or state  
10 law of any offense classified as a felony which has  
11 as an element the possession, use, or sale of a  
12 controlled substance is not eligible for benefits  
13 under the federal temporary assistance for needy  
14 families or under the federal supplemental  
15 nutrition assistance program. The federal law  
16 provides that a state, by specific reference in a  
17 law, may exempt any or all individuals domiciled in  
18 the state from the federal law or limit the time  
19 period which the federal law applies to any or all  
20 individuals domiciled in the state.

21 This bill would provide that any person  
22 convicted of a drug related felony would be  
23 eligible for assistance under the federal temporary  
24 assistance for needy families program and the  
25 federal supplemental nutrition assistance program  
26 upon the completion of his or her sentence or if  
27 the person is satisfactorily serving a sentence of

1 a period of probation, including if the person has  
2 completed mandatory participation in a drug  
3 treatment program.

4  
5 A BILL  
6 TO BE ENTITLED  
7 AN ACT  
8

9 Relating to eligibility for assistance under the  
10 federal temporary assistance for needy families program and  
11 the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program for  
12 persons convicted of a drug related felony; to provide  
13 eligibility under certain conditions.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

15 Section 1. Pursuant to subsection (d) of 21 U.S.C.  
16 §862a., a person convicted of a drug related felony who is  
17 otherwise ineligible for aid under the temporary assistance  
18 for needy families program and the federal supplemental  
19 nutrition assistance program shall be eligible for the aid  
20 upon completion of his or her sentence or if the person is  
21 satisfactorily serving a sentence of a period of probation,  
22 including if the person has satisfactorily completed mandatory  
23 participation in a drug treatment program, provided the person  
24 meets all other requirements for eligibility under the  
25 programs.

26 Section 2. This act shall expire three years from  
27 the effective date of this act.

1                   Section 3. This act shall become effective on the  
2           first day of the third month following its passage and  
3           approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.