

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB155

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Favola

**3. Committee:** Rehabilitation and Social Services

**4. Title:** Eligibility for TANF; drug-related felonies.

**5. Summary:** Provides that a person who is otherwise eligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) shall not be denied such assistance solely because he has been convicted of a felony offense of possession of a controlled substance in violation of § 18.2-250, provided that such person is complying with, or has already complied with, all obligations imposed by the criminal court, is actively engaged in or has completed a substance abuse treatment program, participates in periodic drug screenings, and meets any other obligations as determined by the Department of Social Services.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No. Funding is included in the Governor's introduced budget.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2020	-	-
2021	\$49,296	Nongeneral funds
2022	\$98,592	Nongeneral funds
2023	\$98,592	Nongeneral funds
2024	\$98,592	Nongeneral funds
2025	\$98,592	Nongeneral funds
2026	\$98,592	Nongeneral funds

**8. Fiscal Implications** This bill expands the service population for TANF to include applicants previously ineligible due to possession of a controlled substance felony conviction. In FY 2018, 104 individuals were deemed ineligible for TANF due to felony drug convictions. The average increase in the TANF assistance payment is \$79 per month for an additional person. Therefore, the net increase in TANF benefits for this newly eligible population would be \$98,592 (104 x 12 x \$79). A gradual increase in the caseload is assumed in the first year at a cost of \$49,296.

This fiscal impact estimate assumes that most of the individuals being added to the TANF caseload currently have active cases for their children and are participating in Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW); however, their needs have been omitted from the grant because of their drug possession conviction. As a result, there will be minimal costs associated with increased child care.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Social Services, local departments of social services

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.