

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2023 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 2946**

By Delegate Foster

[Introduced January 24, 2023; Referred to the  
Committee on Senior, Children, and Family Issues  
then the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §9-8-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to  
 2 eligibility verification for applicants for public assistance and authorizing rulemaking.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 8. ELIGIBILITY AND FRAUD REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

**§9-8-4. Eligibility verification.**

1 (a) All applications for benefits must be processed through a system as set forth in this  
 2 article. Complete applications, including the interview, shall be processed within 10 days of receipt  
 3 or the maximum period required by federal law. Prior to determining eligibility, the department shall  
 4 access information for every applicant from federal, state, and other sources: *Provided*, That such  
 5 access does not violate any federal law.

6 (b) The department shall require applicants to cooperate with child support enforcement as  
 7 a condition of eligibility, pursuant to 7 C.F.R. §273.11(o) and 7 C.F.R. §273.11(p), and shall  
 8 promulgate rules, consistent with this requirement, for legislative approval in accordance with  
 9 §29A-3-1 et seq. of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require cooperation with child support enforcement as a condition of eligibility for public assistance and authorize rulemaking.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.