

HB 1655 -- Public Benefits for Illegal Aliens

Sponsor: Nance

This bill prohibits aliens who are unlawfully present in the United States from receiving state or local public benefits, unless it is mandated under federal law. Documentary evidence accepted by the Department of Revenue for obtaining a driver's license will suffice as proof of citizenship, permanent residency, or lawful immigration status when applying for benefits. Individuals can temporarily receive public assistance for up to 90 days while obtaining the necessary documentation or indefinitely if the applicant provides a copy of a completed birth certificate application which is pending. State and local agencies administering public benefits must verify an applicant's lawful presence in the United States through the federal government.