



Rep. Chapin Rose

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09700HB0161ham001

LRB097 05588 KTG 52360 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 161

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 161 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 12-4.4a as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/12-4.4a new)

7 Sec. 12-4.4a. LINK cards; cardholder photo; drug
8 screening.

9 (a) In this Section:

10 "Cardholder" means the person to whom or for whose benefit
11 the Department issues an electronic benefits transfer card for
12 the purpose of obtaining SNAP benefits (formerly known as food
13 stamps) or cash.

14 "Caregiver" has the same meaning ascribed to that term in
15 Section 12-21 of the Criminal Code of 1961.

16 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

1 "LINK card" means an electronic benefits transfer card
2 issued by the Department for the purpose of enabling the
3 cardholder to obtain SNAP benefits (formerly known as food
4 stamps) or cash.

5 "SNAP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
6 Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program).

7 (b) Within 6 months after the effective date of this
8 amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly, the Secretary of
9 Human Services shall seek a waiver from the United States
10 Department of Agriculture to allow the State to include on the
11 face of every LINK card issued to a recipient of SNAP benefits
12 or cash assistance under this Code a photo of the cardholder.

13 (c) Within 6 months after the effective date of this
14 amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly, the Department
15 shall provide the Illinois General Assembly with a good faith
16 estimate of the cost, pursuant to a potential waiver under
17 subsection (b), of (i) replacing every still-valid LINK card
18 with a card that contains on its face a photo of the
19 cardholder; (ii) "phasing-in" new photo identification cards
20 issued under the current contract with the current LINK card
21 vendor; and (iii) implementing photo identification cards
22 pursuant to federal waiver in subsection (b) through new
23 request for proposals (RFP) once the contract with the current
24 LINK card vendor expires.

25 (d) Within 6 months after the effective date of this
26 amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly, the Department

1 shall suggest a process to the Illinois General Assembly that
2 allows the caregiver of a recipient of SNAP benefits or cash
3 assistance under this Code to use the recipient's LINK card on
4 the recipient's behalf pursuant to the subsection (b) waiver.

5 (e) If the subsection (b) waiver is received it shall be up
6 to the Illinois General Assembly through legislation to
7 determine whether it wishes to implement the waiver based upon
8 the findings in subsection (c) and subsection (d)."