



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB6593

by Rep. Thomas M. Bennett

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/12-4.4a new

Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Provides that on and after January 1, 2018, electronic benefits transfer ("LINK") cards used to obtain Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or cash shall contain the name and photo of the primary cardholder and, at the option of the primary cardholder, the names of secondary holders who are authorized to use the card. Establishes that an individual may only use the LINK card if the photo on the card matches the user or he or she presents a current and valid photo identification that confirms that he or she is a secondary user listed on the card. Provides that on the effective date of the amendatory Act the Department of Human Services shall begin the process of transitioning to the use of LINK cards which contain the name and photo of the primary cardholder and list the names of all authorized users of the card. Requires the transition to be completed no later than January 1, 2018. Effective immediately.

LRB099 22321 KTG 49707 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

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. Electronic benefits transfer card; SNAP
8 benefits.

9 (a) In this Section, "LINK card" means an electronic
10 benefits transfer card issued by the Department of Human
11 Services for the purpose of enabling a user of the card to
12 obtain Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
13 benefits or cash.

14 (b) On and after January 1, 2018, LINK cards used to obtain
15 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or
16 cash shall contain the name and photo of the primary
17 cardholder. In addition, the card shall contain, at the option
18 of the primary cardholder, the names of secondary cardholders
19 who are authorized to use the card to obtain SNAP benefits or
20 cash. An individual may use the LINK card to obtain SNAP
21 benefits or cash only if:

22 (1) he or she is the primary cardholder listed on the
23 card and the photo on the card matches the user; or

1 (2) he or she is the secondary cardholder listed on the
2 card and he or she shows a current and valid photo
3 identification that confirms that he or she is a secondary
4 user listed on the card.

5 (c) On the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
6 99th General Assembly, the Department of Human Services shall
7 begin the process of transitioning to the use of LINK cards
8 which contain the name and photo of the primary cardholder and
9 list the names of all authorized users of the card. This
10 transition shall be completed no later than January 1, 2018.

11 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
12 becoming law.