

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

HOUSE BILL 1994

By: Nollan

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to poor persons; amending 56 O.S. 2011, Section 241.1, which relates to the electronic benefits identification program; updating assistance program names; requiring new debit or electronic benefit transfer cards to contain photograph identification of the card recipient; mandating issue of new cards as existing recipient cards expire; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 56 O.S. 2011, Section 241.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 241.1 A. The Department of Human Services shall develop an electronic benefits identification program to expediently and accurately determine the eligibility of and the extent or limit of benefits of clients, and to serve providers and other persons providing consumer-related goods to recipients of ~~food stamps~~ the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and other assistance programs.

1 B. 1. The electronic benefits identification program for  
2 recipients of ~~food stamps~~ the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
3 Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and  
4 other assistance may be implemented on a staggered basis.

5 2. To provide for the implementation of the electronic benefits  
6 identification program, and as determined necessary by the  
7 Department for such implementation in compliance with federal law,  
8 the time of issuance of benefits for recipients of ~~food stamps~~ the  
9 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary  
10 Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and other assistance programs  
11 may be modified or adjusted to provide for issuance of benefits on a  
12 staggered basis, provided recipients shall be notified, in writing,  
13 at least three (3) months prior to any modification or adjustment of  
14 the time of issuance of benefits.

15 C. The electronic benefits identification program shall be  
16 implemented upon the awarding of a contract to a vendor selected by  
17 competitive bid to do business with the State of Oklahoma.

18 D. Beginning November 1, 2019, any new debit or electronic  
19 benefit transfer cards that contain state or federal funds from  
20 programs including, but not limited to, the Supplemental Nutrition  
21 Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families  
22 (TANF) and other assistance programs which are distributed as part  
23 of the electronic benefits identification program shall contain a  
24 photograph of the card recipient for identification purposes.

1 Existing program recipients shall be issued new debit or electronic  
2 benefit transfer cards containing their photograph at the time their  
3 cards expire or need to be replaced for any reason.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.  
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