

2013 -- H 5029

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Introduced By: Representatives Messier, Ferri, Malik, E Coderre, and Fellela

Date Introduced: January 09, 2013

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 40-6-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-6 entitled "Public
2 Assistance Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **40-6-8. Supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP).** -- (a) The department
4 shall have the responsibility to administer the food stamp program for the state in compliance
5 with the provisions of the federal Food Stamp Act of 1964, as amended, 7 U.S.C. section 2011 et
6 seq. The supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) is and shall be the new title of the
7 program formerly known as the food stamp program. All references in the Rhode Island general
8 laws to food stamps shall be deemed to mean, apply to, refer to, and be interpreted in accordance
9 with the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP).

10 (b) The department is empowered and authorized to submit its plan for food stamps to
11 the federal government or any agency or department of it. The department shall act for the state in
12 any negotiations relative to the submission and approval of a plan, and may make any
13 arrangement or changes in its plan not inconsistent with this chapter which may be required by
14 the Food Stamp Act or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to it to obtain and retain
15 such approval and to secure for this state the benefits of the provisions of the federal act relating
16 to food stamps. The department shall make reports to the federal government or any agency or
17 department of it in the form and nature required by it, and in all respects comply with any request
18 or direction of the federal government or any agency or department of it, which may be necessary
19 to assure the correctness and verification of the reports.

1 (c) The department is authorized and directed to pay one hundred percent (100%) of the
2 state's share of the administrative cost involved in the operation of the food stamp program.

3 (d) No person shall be ineligible for food stamp benefits due solely to the restricted
4 eligibility rules otherwise imposed by section 115(a)(2) of the Personal Responsibility and Work
5 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Laws No. 104-193), 21 U.S.C. section
6 862a(a)(2), and as this section may hereafter be amended.

7 (e) The department shall be required to issue (EBT) electronic benefit transfer cards used
8 to administer this program with the cardholder's picture identification.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would require picture identification on all (EBT) electronic benefit transfer cards
- 2 issued to administer this program.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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