

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Subject:** Electronic Benefit Transfers and Residency Requirements  
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### Overview

This bill modifies electronic benefit transfers for several programs administered by the Department of Human Services and modifies residency requirements for certain programs.

**1 Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) debit card.** Creates § 256.9870.

**Subd. 1. EBT debit card.** Paragraph (a) prohibits EBT cardholders in the GA, MSA, and MFIP programs from withdrawing cash from an ATM or receiving cash from vendors with the EBT debit card. Limits the use of EBT cards to use as a debit card.

Paragraph (b) requires cash benefits for programs listed under paragraph (a) to be issued on a separate EBT card with the head of household's name printed on the card. Requires the card to state that it is unlawful to purchase tobacco products or alcoholic beverages with the card. Requires the card to be issued within 30 days of an eligibility determination. Allows recipients to have benefits issued on a card without a name printed on the card during the initial 30 days of eligibility. Specifies that the temporary card does not need to meet the requirements of this section.

Paragraph (c) allows EBT cardholders to opt to have up to \$20 per month accessible via ATM.

**Subd. 2. Photo identification.** Prohibits retailers from accepting an EBT card as payment without also seeing a photo identification card.

**Subd. 3. Prohibited purchases.** Prohibits EBT cardholders in programs listed under subdivision 1 from using their EBT card to purchase tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. Prohibits retailers from accepting EBT cards for payment for these products. Requires DHS to impose a civil penalty of up to an unspecified amount on retailers who violate this section.

**Subd. 4. EBT use restricted to Minnesota vendors.** Prohibits EBT debit cardholders from using the EBT debit card at vendors located outside of Minnesota. Specifies that this subdivision does not apply to the EBT food portion.

- 2**        **Resident.** Amends § 256D.02, subd. 12a. Modifies the definition of "resident" under the GA program to increase the residency requirement from 30 days to 90 days.
- 3**        **90-day residency requirement.** Amends § 256J.12, subd. 1a. Modifies the MFIP residency requirement by increasing the requirement from 30 days to 90 days.
- 4**        **Exceptions.** Amends § 256J.12, subd. 2. Contains a conforming change to the MFIP residency requirement modification.
- 5**        **Requirement for liquor stores, gambling establishments, and tattoo parlors.** Requires liquor stores, gambling establishments, and tattoo parlors to negotiate with their third-party processors to block EBT cash transactions at their places of business and withdrawals of cash at ATMs located in their places of business.
- 6**        **Repealer.** Repeals EBT transaction fees (Minn. Stat. § 256.9862, subd. 2).