

would increase by \$23.30 per month. The total fiscal impact is therefore estimated to be \$31.8 million for 18-months of the 2005-2007 biennium and \$44.9 million for the 24-months of the 2007-2009 biennium. Food stamp benefits are 100% Federal Funds (NonLimited). The DHS fiscal impact assumes no increase in caseloads related to new applicants who may qualify for food stamps based upon their eligibility at higher levels of Social Security income.

The total amount for both biennia would be paid out to eligible food stamp recipients. DHS would retain none of the Federal Funds for program or other administrative expenses. DHS states that it would absorb the cost to redesign the Department's food stamp information system and the program that matches food stamp recipients with Social Security recipients as well as any administrative costs for the program. DHS made no estimate of the costs it would absorb. Such costs are funded with 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Funds.

This measure does not require a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. This is due to the fact that the expenditures detailed in this fiscal impact are Nonlimited Federal Funds. The Department of Administrative Services has the statutory authority to increase Nonlimited limitation for Executive Branch state agencies without legislative approval.