

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires replacement electronic benefits transfer card (EBT card) to display names of individual to whom card was issued. Requires use of card for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits and Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Removes current direct deposit option. Excludes certain SNAP benefits to senior citizens and Social Security Income checks.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Public Assistance Program Integrity Workgroup
- Printing names as an additional security measure
- Fiscal impact

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

When a person qualifies for state assistance such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), an account is established, much like an ordinary bank account, allowing the recipient to access benefits using an EBT card (electronic benefits transfer), called the Oregon Trail Card. The card operates just like a bank card: benefits are deposited into the recipient's account on a monthly basis and the recipient may make purchases or withdraw cash using the card at store locations and automatic teller machines. A cardholder receiving SNAP benefits may buy food, and a cardholder receiving TANF benefits may buy nonfood items and obtain cash.

House Bill 2392 requires a replacement EBT card to display the name of the individual to whom the replacement card was issued. It would also reduce the option to receive direct deposit for some assistance programs.