

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**House Committee On Judiciary****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 04/02/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments, Be Printed Engrossed And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference.**Meeting Dates:** 03/10, 04/02**Vote:**

Yeas: 8 - Barker, Barton, Greenlick, Krieger, Lininger, Olson, Post, Williamson

Exc: 1 - Sprenger

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel**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:

- Increasing integrity of EBT card program
- Use of EBT cards in fraud and drug cases
- Trade use of EBT card for money
- 37,300 individuals have requested more than 5 replacement EBT cards
- Rate of fraud with EBT cards is less than 0.5%
- Effect of amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Removes requirement that cards display name of all adults authorized to make transactions with card. Adds requirement that cards issued to replace lost or stolen card bear name of individual for whom replacement card was issued.

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 A 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.