

HB 4088 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to convene a work group and be advised by said group on the implementation of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Restaurant Meals Program. Specifies SNAP participants eligibility for Restaurant Meals Program.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for legislation and capacity of ODHS to implement provisions
- Representation from the restaurant industry on work group
- Restaurant opt-in options, seeing USDA approval to join program, specific menu items

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Specifies the work group needs to consist of individuals representing the geographic and racial or ethnic diversity of the state.

BACKGROUND:

SNAP participants cannot use their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card at restaurants to purchase hot food or food intended for immediate consumption unless their State participates in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) that serves the elderly, disabled, and/or homeless. The SNAP Restaurant Meal Program is a special state-run program that allows elderly, homeless, and disabled SNAP recipients to purchase food at SNAP authorized restaurants using their SNAP EBT cards. Under the Restaurant Meals Program, participating restaurants must offer meals at concessional prices.