

Food Stamp Integrity Act of 2016

Introduced by Maine's 2nd District Congressman Bruce Poliquin

Under Current Law	Under Congressman Poliquin's Proposal
Within two days, States must automatically issue replacement Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards, a red flag for fraud, unless they choose to conduct an investigation during which the recipient still receives benefits. States cannot require the recipient to provide an explanation of cause for card replacements until the fourth replacement request.	States can require a face-to-face interview after two EBT card replacement requests and can deny a replacement request after the issuance of four cards to a single cardholder in a 12-month period.
Those convicted of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) fraud can begin receiving benefits again after a one-year ban.	Permanent disqualification for anyone convicted of SNAP fraud or defrauding local, state or federal government.
Those convicted of a drug trafficking offense can begin receiving SNAP benefits after a two-year ban.	Permanent disqualification for those who have been convicted of drug trafficking.
Those delinquent in paying child support can still receive taxpayer-funded SNAP benefits.	Those who are delinquent in paying child support will not receive taxpayer-funded SNAP benefits without an approved payment plan.
Able-bodied adults with no dependents must work, volunteer or train for work in order to receive SNAP. If they fail to do so for three months in a 36-month period, they are ineligible for the remainder of the three years, or until they comply.	Able-bodied adults with no dependents must work, volunteer or train for work in order to receive SNAP. If they fail to do so for three months in a 48-month period, they are ineligible for the remainder of the four years, or until they comply.

Praise for similar reforms:

"Maine DHHS issued a new rule this week limiting the number of times a person can automatically receive replacement Electronic Benefits Transfer cards.

It's the end of endless replacement benefits. Excellent...

It's theft of public money that drug dealers and other crooks have been exploiting for years."

— Lewiston Sun Journal, 5/22/16



www.poliquin.house.gov