STATE OF NEW YORK

8938

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

July 16, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. EACHUS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring that two electronic benefit transfer credit or debit cards be issued to certain households receiving special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children (WIC) benefits

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 21-a of the social services law, as added by chapter 376 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Any electronic benefit transfer services for supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) benefits **or for special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children (WIC) benefits** shall ensure that two electronic benefit transfer credit or debit cards are issued for use by any recipient household having more than one parent or guardian residing in the household on a full-time basis, provided that at least two parents or guardians residing in the household, or a combination thereof, qualify for benefits pursuant to this chapter. No card shall be issued to any person under the age of eighteen unless such person is a parent or guardian of a minor child. The issuance of a second card shall be consistent with federal requirements and is subject to the request and approval by the head of household and shall not entitle the recipients to any additional benefits. Benefit recipients shall not be required to accept or utilize both cards. The department shall notify existing and future benefit recipients of the availability of multiple cards.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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