

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 111

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LAW; AMENDING CHAPTER 2, TITLE 56, IDAHO CODE,
2 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 56-211A, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PRO-
3 VISIONS REGARDING PHOTOGRAPHIC VERIFICATION FOR ELECTRONIC BENEFIT
4 TRANSFER CARDS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
5 DATE.
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Chapter 2, Title 56, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
9 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
10 ignated as Section 56-211A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

11 56-211A. PHOTOGRAPHIC VERIFICATION FOR FEDERAL FOOD STAMP PRO-
12 GRAM. (1) No later than January 1, 2026, the department of health and welfare
13 shall:

14 (a) Add photographic identification to all new electronic benefit
15 transfer cards issued to recipients. Such photographic identification
16 electronic benefit transfer cards shall be in a form approved by the de-
17 partment of health and welfare and may not prevent any authorized users
18 in the household from accessing benefits;

19 (b) Develop a strategy to replace all electronic benefit transfer cards
20 without photographs in circulation within eighteen (18) months for
21 households that continue to participate in the program; and

22 (c) Coordinate with the Idaho transportation department and, to the
23 extent permissible under federal and state law, minimize costs of
24 implementation by using an individual's photograph or digital image
25 maintained by the Idaho transportation department for purposes of this
26 section.

27 (2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply,
28 without the consent of the authorized users, to an electronic benefit trans-
29 fer card issued for a household that:

30 (a) Does not include any adult members;

31 (b) In which all of the adult members of the household are sixty (60)
32 years of age or older;

33 (c) In which all of the adult members of the household are blind, dis-
34 abled, or a victim of domestic violence; or

35 (d) In which all of the adult members of the household have religious
36 objections to being photographed.

37 (3) If, within twelve (12) months of a household requesting a replace-
38 ment electronic benefit transfer card, any member of the household requests
39 two (2) additional replacement cards, the department shall refer the house-
40 hold for investigation.

1 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
2 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
3 July 1, 2025.