

AN ACT relating to photographic identification for welfare recipients.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 205 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Act, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall design, implement, and distribute new benefit cards to new enrollees for services under this chapter.
- (2) The new design shall use evidence-based fraud-prevention measures, including the incorporation of a photographic likeness of the recipient on the left side of the front of the benefits card. The photographic likeness of the recipient shall be no smaller than one (1) inch by one (1) inch.
- (3) Upon renewal of his or her benefit cards, a current recipient shall be issued a card conforming to the requirements in subsection (2) of this section.
- (4) (a) A retailer participating in the food stamp program shall request that a recipient show his or her card when purchasing qualifying items. The retailer or retailer's agent shall verify that the name and likeness of the recipient match the person purchasing the qualifying items.

(b) The cabinet shall adopt a mechanism by which a food stamp program participant may designate another individual to temporarily purchase qualifying items for the food stamp program participant.

(c) Any policy adopted by the cabinet pursuant to this subsection shall encourage a participant to select an immediate family member or member of his or her household in authorizing the temporary purchase of qualifying items.

(d) The names of individuals designated to purchase qualifying items temporarily shall be tracked electronically by the cabinet.

(e) The cabinet shall adopt a policy that no individual may be designated to

temporarily purchase qualifying items for more than six (6) recipients at one (1) time, and the cabinet may establish an annual limit on the number of instances and recipients that an individual may be designated to purchase qualifying items as necessary to prevent waste and fraud.