

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Submit an Application for a Waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture'

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1 Department of Health and Human Services to seek federal waiver.

Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit an application for a waiver from the requirements of federal law and regulations to the United States Department of Agriculture. The waiver must seek approval for the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to require a person to show photographic identification in order to use an electronic benefits transfer card when it is requested in an establishment that accepts Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program benefits. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit the application for a waiver by October 1, 2012; and be it further

Sec. 2 Department of Health and Human Services to continue to develop strategies to combat fraud and abuse. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall continue to develop strategies to combat fraud and abuse in the use of electronic benefits transfer cards to access Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program benefits. The Department of Health and Human Services shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters on its progress in developing new strategies to combat fraud and abuse in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program by December 1, 2012.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the resolve. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to submit an application for a waiver from the requirements of federal law and regulations to the United States Department of Agriculture. The waiver must seek approval for the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to require a person to show photographic identification in order to use an electronic benefits transfer card when it is requested in an establishment that accepts Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program benefits. The Department of Health and Human Services is required to seek the waiver by October 1, 2012. The Department of Health and Human Services is also required to continue to develop strategies to combat fraud and abuse in the use of electronic benefits transfer cards in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program and report its progress in developing new strategies to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by December 1, 2012.