

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE BILL

No. 1538 Session of  
2017

---

INTRODUCED BY SACCONI, MILLARD, BARRAR, COX, PHILLIPS-HILL,  
DIAMOND, BOBACK, IRVIN, SAYLOR, GROVE, A. HARRIS, WHEELAND,  
REESE, FARRY AND PICKETT, JUNE 13, 2017

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JUNE 13, 2017

---

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), entitled "An  
2 act to consolidate, editorially revise, and codify the public  
3 welfare laws of the Commonwealth," in public assistance,  
4 providing for replacement of electronic benefits card.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. The act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known  
8 as the Human Services Code, is amended by adding a section to  
9 read:

10 Section 438. Replacement of Electronic Benefits Card.--(a)  
11 An individual receiving public assistance benefits on an  
12 electronic benefits card issued by the department shall be  
13 subject to the following card replacement fee and penalty  
14 schedule if the individual's electronic benefits card is lost or  
15 stolen:

16 (1) For the first request, the recipient shall be subject to  
17 a replacement fee established by the department which shall be  
18 calculated to ensure that there is a cost-neutral impact on the

1 department for printing the replacement card with the photograph  
2 of the recipient.

3 (2) For a second request within a twelve-month period, the  
4 fee established under paragraph (1) shall be doubled.

5 (3) For a third request within a twelve-month period, the  
6 benefits provided to the recipient shall immediately be revoked  
7 and the recipient shall be subject to a lifetime ban from  
8 receiving public assistance.

9 (b) This section shall not apply to:

10 (1) Funds deposited onto an individual's electronic benefits  
11 card which relate to child or State blind pension funds.

12 (2) Replacement of an electronic benefits card that is  
13 damaged or defective if the recipient returns the card to the  
14 county assistance office.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.