

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6457

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require the placement of a photograph on an electronic benefit transfer card used by a household to purchase food with supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 4, 2025

Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Ms. BOEBERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require the placement of a photograph on an electronic benefit transfer card used by a household to purchase food with supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Food Assistance Integ-
5 rity and Responsibility Act” or the “FAIR Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT**
2 **OF 2008.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTI-
4 FICATION REQUIREMENT.—Section 7(h)(9) of the Food
5 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2016(h)(9)) is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 “(9) PHOTO IDENTIFICATION ON ELECTRONIC
8 BENEFIT TRANSFER CARDS.—

9 “(A) REQUIREMENT.—Each Electronic
10 Benefit Transfer card issued to a household or
11 individual under this chapter shall include on
12 the face of the card a photographic image taken
13 within the previous ten years, or in the case of
14 a minor taken within the previous five years, of
15 the authorized cardholder to whom the card is
16 issued.

17 “(B) LIMITATION ON USE OF ELECTRONIC
18 BENEFIT TRANSFER CARDS.—An individual au-
19 thorized to utilize or redeem benefits through
20 an Electronic Benefit Transfer card under this
21 chapter shall redeem such benefits only through
22 an Electronic Benefit Transfer card bearing the
23 name and photograph of such individual card-
24 holder.

25 “(C) ISSUANCE OF ADDITIONAL ELEC-
26 TRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER CARDS.—For

households in which benefits are accessed by more than one household member, a State agency may issue individual cards to each household member who is authorized to access benefits, including the name and photograph of an individual authorized to access benefits.

“(D) EXCEPTION FOR CAREGIVERS.—The Secretary shall establish procedures for reasonable accommodations to allow caregivers of a minor, individual with disabilities, or an elderly individual to access benefits on behalf of a recipient in their care.”.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR RETAILERS TO VERIFY IDENTITY.—Section 9(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2018(a)) is amended by—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (v) and (vi); and

(B) inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

“(iv) information related to the ability of a retailer to verify the identity of the holder of an electronic benefit transfer card to prevent fraudulent purchases;”; and

1 (2) adding at the end the following new para-
2 graph:

3 “(5) As a condition of authorization to accept
4 or redeem benefits under this chapter, a retail food
5 store or wholesale food concern, before making a
6 sale, shall demand to see, and shall inspect, the pho-
7 tograph located on an Electronic Benefit Transfer
8 card for every customer using an Electronic Benefit
9 Transfer card to ensure the purchaser is entitled to
10 utilize or redeem benefits under this chapter.”.

11 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
12 7(h)(2)(C)(i) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
13 U.S.C. 2016(h)(2)(C)(i)) is amended by striking “photo-
14 graphic identification on electronic benefit transfer
15 cards,”.

16 (d) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—Within 18 months of
17 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall make such
18 conforming changes to the Code of Federal Regulations
19 as are necessary to implement the amendments made by
20 this Act.

21 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act, and amendments
22 made by this Act, shall take effect 18 months after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act.

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