



98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB4453

by Rep. John M. Cabello

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/8A-4B new

305 ILCS 5/8A-5A

305 ILCS 5/8A-6

from Ch. 23, par. 8A-5A

from Ch. 23, par. 8A-6

Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Provides that any person who possesses for an unlawful purpose another person's Electronic Benefit Transfer card (EBT) or LINK card in order to use or transfer in any manner not authorized by law or the rules and regulations of the Department of Human Services the cash assistance benefits held on that EBT or LINK card is guilty of a violation and shall be subject to certain penalties established under the Code. Effective immediately.

LRB098 17330 KTG 52426 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 changing Sections 8A-5A and 8A-6 and by adding Section 8A-4B as
6 follows:

7 (305 ILCS 5/8A-4B new)

8 Sec. 8A-4B. Penalty for unauthorized possession and use of
9 cash benefits. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
10 contrary, any person who possesses for an unlawful purpose
11 another person's Electronic Benefit Transfer card (EBT) or LINK
12 card in order to use or transfer in any manner not authorized
13 by law or the rules and regulations of the Department of Human
14 Services the cash assistance benefits held on that EBT or LINK
15 card is guilty of a violation of this Article and shall be
16 subject to the penalties established under Section 8A-6.

17 (305 ILCS 5/8A-5A) (from Ch. 23, par. 8A-5A)

18 Sec. 8A-5A. Unauthorized possession of identification
19 document. Any person who possesses for an unlawful purpose
20 another person's identification document issued by the
21 Illinois Department shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony. For
22 purposes of this Section, "identification document" includes

1 but is not limited to an authorization to participate in the
2 federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
3 (formerly the Food Stamp Program) ~~food stamp program~~ or the
4 federal surplus food commodities program, or a card or other
5 document which identifies a person as being entitled to public
6 aid, including cash assistance, under this Code.

7 (Source: P.A. 86-1012.)

8 (305 ILCS 5/8A-6) (from Ch. 23, par. 8A-6)

9 Sec. 8A-6. Classification of violations.

10 (a) Any person, firm, corporation, association, agency,
11 institution or other legal entity that has been found by a
12 court to have engaged in an act, practice or course of conduct
13 declared unlawful under Sections 8A-2 through 8A-5 or Section
14 8A-13 or 8A-14 where:

15 (1) the total amount of money involved in the
16 violation, including the monetary value of cash assistance
17 benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps)
18 ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is less than
19 \$150, shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor;

20 (2) the total amount of money involved in the
21 violation, including the monetary value of cash assistance
22 benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps)
23 ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is \$150 or more
24 but less than \$1,000, shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony;

25 (3) the total amount of money involved in the

1 violation, including the monetary value of cash assistance
2 benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps)
3 ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is \$1,000 or more
4 but less than \$5,000, shall be guilty of a Class 3 felony;

5 (4) the total amount of money involved in the
6 violation, including the monetary value of cash assistance
7 benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps)
8 ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is \$5,000 or more
9 but less than \$10,000, shall be guilty of a Class 2 felony;

10 or

11 (5) the total amount of money involved in the
12 violation, including the monetary value of cash assistance
13 benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps)
14 ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is \$10,000 or
15 more, shall be guilty of a Class 1 felony and,
16 notwithstanding the provisions of Section 8A-8 except for
17 Subsection (c) of Section 8A-8, shall be ineligible for
18 financial aid under this Article for a period of two years
19 following conviction or until the total amount of money,
20 including the value of federal food stamps, is repaid,
21 whichever first occurs.

22 (b) Any person, firm, corporation, association, agency,
23 institution or other legal entity that commits a subsequent
24 violation of any of the provisions of Sections 8A-2 through
25 8A-5 and:

26 (1) the total amount of money involved in the

1 subsequent violation, including the monetary value of cash
2 assistance benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly
3 food stamps) ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is
4 less than \$150, shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony;

5 (2) the total amount of money involved in the
6 subsequent violation, including the monetary value of cash
7 assistance benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly
8 food stamps) ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is
9 \$150 or more but less than \$1,000, shall be guilty of a
10 Class 3 felony;

11 (3) the total amount of money involved in the
12 subsequent violation, including the monetary value of cash
13 assistance benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly
14 food stamps) ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is
15 \$1,000 or more but less than \$5,000, shall be guilty of a
16 Class 2 felony;

17 (4) the total amount of money involved in the
18 subsequent violation, including the monetary value of cash
19 assistance benefits or federal SNAP benefits (formerly
20 food stamps) ~~food stamps~~ and the value of commodities, is
21 \$5,000 or more but less than \$10,000, shall be guilty of a
22 Class 1 felony.

23 (c) For purposes of determining the classification of
24 offense under this Section, all of the money received as a
25 result of the unlawful act, practice or course of conduct can
26 be accumulated.

1 (Source: P.A. 90-538, eff. 12-1-97.)

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
3 becoming law.