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S.B. 315
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Schaffer and Craig

Jason Hoskins, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Appropriates \$3 million in FY 2027 to support the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to transition to chip-enabled electronic benefit transfer cards used to provide benefits for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
- Requires the Department to use the appropriated funds to begin issuing new electronic benefit transfer cards that are chip-enabled and then to replace existing cards with chip-enabled cards under the Department's ordinary timeframe for replacing cards.
- Designates the bill's provisions as the "Enhanced Cybersecurity for SNAP Act."

DETAILED ANALYSIS

SNAP cybersecurity

Background

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) assists low-income households with purchasing food. Households participating in SNAP receive monthly benefit allotments that are provided through an electronic benefit transfer card, which can be used to purchase food in a similar manner to a debit card. In Ohio, the electronic benefit transfer card is known as the Ohio Direction Card.¹

Chip-enabled cards

The bill appropriates \$3 million (\$2,250,000 in general revenue funds) in FY 2027 for the Department of Job and Family Services to transition SNAP electronic benefit transfer cards to cards that are chip-enabled. In implementing the transition, the bill specifies that the Department

¹ Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, [What is the Ohio Direction Card](#).

must ensure that all new SNAP electronic benefit transfer cards are chip-enabled. Thereafter, the Department must replace all existing SNAP electronic benefit transfer cards with chip-enabled cards under the Department's ordinary timeframe for replacing electronic benefit transfer cards.²

Designation

The bill designates its provisions as the "Enhanced Cybersecurity for SNAP Act."³

HISTORY

| Action | Date |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Introduced | 11-04-25 |
| Reported, S. Finance | 05-20-26 |
| Passed Senate (30-0) | 05-20-26 |

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² Sections 1, 2, and 3.

³ Section 4.