

DHS -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- MA ADMINISTRATION AND FOODSHARE

DHS Study of Program Changes for MA and FoodShare

Motion:

Move to require the Department of Health Services to conduct a study to estimate the costs and determine the feasibility of the following policies:

(a) Implementing photo identification requirements for beneficiaries in the Medical Assistance (MA) and Wisconsin FoodShare programs by requiring a photo of the enrollee be placed on the MA enrollment card and the FoodShare electronic benefit transfer card; and

(b) Promoting the purchase of nutritional foods and beverages among enrollees in the FoodShare program, and requiring individuals to purchase nutritional foods and beverages under the program.

Require the study to address any potential costs associated with the implementation of these changes, and any potential savings that may be realized due to fraud reduction that would be realized by implementing the requirement for photo identification.

Require the study to address the need for federal approval for the implementation of these changes, and how the photo identification requirement would accommodate households comprised of multiple individuals.

Require the Department to develop recommendations for the implementation of these policies, and present those recommendations to the Joint Committee on Finance by December 31, 2011. Require the report to analyze the feasibility of implementing these changes by April 1, 2012.

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Note:

The motion would require DHS to conduct a report on certain changes related to the MA and FoodShare programs. DHS would be required to submit the report to the Joint Committee on Finance by December 31, 2011. No funding would be allocated under this motion. Waivers of federal law would presumably be required to implement the changes described in this motion. It is not clear what action the Centers on Medicare and Medicaid Services or the U.S. Department of Agriculture would choose to take on the requests for waivers under this study.