

Administrative Rule Analysis



Family Independence Program

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Rule Set No.: 2024-27 HS

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Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

Department: Health and Human Services

Agency: Economic Stability Administration

Enabling Statute: Social Welfare Act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.6 et seq.

Analysis Complete to: 10/22/2024

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULES

Rule Set 2024-27 HS would amend rules on the replacement of cash assistance benefits to allow for use of a non-recurrent, short-term benefit (NRST) to replace funds that are fraudulently removed from the EBT account of a State Disability Assistance (SDA), Family Independence Program (FIP), or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) beneficiary. Recipients would be eligible for EBT replacement once per 12-month period, and replacement payment amounts would be limited to the lesser of the funds stolen or 4 times the group's payment standard.

Under current state practice, SDA, FIP, and RCA recipients are manually compensated for stolen funds with a single vendor gift card. This process is time consuming and limits recipients' ability to pay for rent, utilities, and other necessities. The proposed rule aligns the state with federal guidance on use of TANF funds to remediate stolen benefits, with the intent of minimizing disruptions to families' ability to meet their basic needs.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RULES

2024-27 HS would incur no costs on state or local units of government. The change may result in indeterminate administrative savings for the Department of Health and Human Service (DHHS), as the department will no longer use the emergency services fund to purchase gift cards for benefits replacement.

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