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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide for the reissuance to households of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to replace benefits stolen by identity theft or typical skimming practices, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. MENG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide for the reissuance to households of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to replace benefits stolen by identity theft or typical skimming practices, 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 “Ending Stolen SNAP
5 Benefits Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

2 Section 7 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
3 U.S.C. 2016) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (e) by inserting “or from the
5 reissuance of benefits stolen by identity theft or typ-
6 ical skimming practices” after “mail”; and

7 (2) in subsection (h)(7)—

8 (A) by striking “Regulations” and insert-
9 ing the following:

10 “(A) REISSUANCE OF BENEFITS.—Regula-
11 tions”; and

12 (B) by adding at end the following:

13 “(B) REISSUANCE OF STOLEN BENE-
14 FITS.—

15 “(i) ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS.—

16 The Secretary shall issue regulations, con-
17 sistent with the procedures determined by
18 the Secretary under subparagraphs (A)
19 and (B) of section 501(b)(1) of division
20 HH of the Consolidated Appropriations
21 Act, 2023 (Public Law 117–328; 7 U.S.C.
22 2016a(b)(1)), without regard to the limita-
23 tions in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of sec-
24 tion 501(b)(2) of such Act—

25 “(I) to establish criteria and best
26 practices for State agencies to identify

1 supplemental nutrition assistance pro-
2 gram benefits stolen by identity theft
3 or typical skimming practices in a way
4 that minimizes the burden of victim
5 households to establish the theft;

6 “(II) to provide for the
7 reissuance to households of benefits
8 stolen by identity theft, or typical
9 skimming practices, that meet such
10 criteria; and

11 “(III) to permit State agencies to
12 reissue stolen benefits to the same
13 household, provided the Secretary has
14 approved a State agency’s transition
15 plan in accordance with section
16 16(l)(2).

17 “(ii) STATUS REPORT.—Not later
18 than 240 days after the Secretary issues
19 regulations under clause (i), the Secretary
20 shall submit to the Congress a report on
21 the status of benefits reissued under such
22 regulations that includes—

23 “(I) a detailed description of the
24 prevalence of stolen benefits for which

1 benefits are reissued under such regu-
2 lations;

3 “(II) an examination of current
4 barriers, feasibility, and impact on
5 participant access and ease of use in
6 developing an electronic benefit trans-
7 fer card that contains technologies
8 such as an embedded microchip in
9 common use in the financial services
10 industry along with the traditional
11 magnetic stripe; and

12 “(III) such other information as
13 by the Secretary considers to be ap-
14 propriate.

15 “(iii) STOLEN BENEFIT REISSUANCE
16 REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after
17 end of each fiscal year that begins after
18 the Secretary issues regulations under
19 clause (i), the Secretary shall submit to the
20 Congress, and make available to the public,
21 a report for such fiscal year with respect to
22 each State that includes the aggregate
23 value of supplemental nutrition assistance
24 program benefits reissued under such regu-

1 lations and the number of households to
2 which such benefits were reissued.

3 “(iv) EVALUATION.—To maximize the
4 accessibility and security of electronic ben-
5 efit transfer cards, the Secretary shall pe-
6 riodically review and modify such regula-
7 tions to take into account evolving tech-
8 nology and the threat landscape to better
9 protect against benefit theft.”.

10 **SEC. 3. COST SHARING FOR TRANSITIONING TO CHIP-EN-**
11 **ABLED EBT CARDS.**

12 Section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
13 (7 U.S.C. 2025) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “subsection
15 (k),” and inserting “subsection (k), except as pro-
16 vided in subsection (l),”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(l) ADMINISTRATIVE COST-SHARING FOR
19 TRANSITIONING TO CHIP-ENABLED EBT CARDS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—On approval of a plan sub-
21 mitted by a State agency under paragraph (2), the
22 Secretary shall pay to such State agency an amount
23 equal to 90 percent of all administrative costs in-
24 curred by the State agency in carrying out a transi-
25 tion from magnetic-stripe EBT cards to EBT cards

1 with chip technology that complies with the Amer-
2 ican National Standards Institute X9.58-2024 EBT
3 standard, or its succeeding standard, including costs
4 associated with—

5 “(A) card issuance strategies;

6 “(B) one-time up-front costs paid by the
7 State to card vendors;

8 “(C) business and functional design re-
9 quirements;

10 “(D) implementation planning;

11 “(E) system testing;

12 “(F) education and outreach in language
13 accessible by all households, including informa-
14 tional activities under subsection (a)(4); and

15 “(G) any other administrative fees reason-
16 ably necessary for the successful implementa-
17 tion of chip cards.

18 “(2) APPROVAL OF TRANSITION PLANS.—

19 “(A) SUBMISSION.—A State agency shall
20 submit to the Secretary for approval a plan
21 that carries out paragraph (1), including sys-
22 tem testing, retailer and household education,
23 and outreach efforts. State plans must include
24 steps to ensure that recipients will retain access

1 to their benefits without interruption during the
2 transition.

3 “(B) SECRETARIAL ACTION.—Not later
4 than 90 days after the date on which the Sec-
5 retary receives a complete plan under subpara-
6 graph (A), the Secretary shall—

7 “(i) approve the plan;

8 “(ii) approve the plan with conditions;

9 or

10 “(iii) disapprove the plan and provide
11 the State agency with a written expla-
12 nation of the reasons for such disapproval.

13 “(C) DEEMED APPROVAL.—If the Sec-
14 retary fails to take action within the 90-day pe-
15 riod described in subparagraph (B), the plan
16 shall be deemed approved.

17 “(3) SUNSET.—This subsection shall sunset on
18 September 30, 2031.”.