

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1956

01/26/2012 Authored by Anderson, S., Cornish, Abeler, Gottwalt, Shimanski and others

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance

02/15/2012 Adoption of Report: Pass as Amended and re-referred to Health and Human Services Reform

02/23/2012 Adoption of Report: Pass and Read Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act
 1.2 relating to public safety; requiring law enforcement departments to report
 1.3 offenders who possess multiple welfare electronic benefit transfer cards to the
 1.4 commissioner of human services; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
 1.5 Statutes, chapter 626.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. **[626.5533] REPORTING WELFARE FRAUD.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Reports required.** A peace officer must report to the head of the
 1.9 officer's department every arrest where the person arrested possesses more than one
 1.10 welfare electronic benefit transfer card. Each report must include all of the following:

1.11 (1) the name of the offender;

1.12 (2) the offender's drivers license or state identification card number, where available;

1.13 (3) the offender's home address;

1.14 (4) the number on each card;

1.15 (5) the name on each electronic benefit card in the possession of the offender, in
 1.16 cases where the card has a name printed on it;

1.17 (6) the date of the offense;

1.18 (7) the location of the offense;

1.19 (8) the crime committed; and

1.20 (9) any other information the commissioner of human services deems necessary.

1.21 Subd. 2. **Use of information collected.** The head of a local law enforcement agency
 1.22 or state law enforcement department that employs peace officers licensed under section
 1.23 626.843 must forward the report required under subdivision 1 to the commissioner of
 1.24 human services within 30 days of receiving the report. The commissioner of human
 1.25 services shall use the report to assess the suspect's continued eligibility for welfare benefits.

2.1 Subd. 3. **Reporting forms.** The commissioner of human services, in consultation
2.2 with the superintendent of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, shall adopt reporting
2.3 forms to be used by law enforcement agencies in making the reports required under this
2.4 section.