

2013 -- H 5059

=====
LC00081
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

—————
A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- UNLAWFUL CONVERSION OF FOOD STAMPS

Introduced By: Representatives Corvese, Edwards, Canario, Azzinaro, and Malik

Date Introduced: January 10, 2013

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 40-6 of the General Laws entitled "Public Assistance Act" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **40-6-16.1. Unlawful conversion of food stamps. – (a) Any person who converts,**
4 **attempts to convert, or enables the conversion of food stamps issued pursuant to the Food Stamp**
5 **Act of 1964, as amended, 7 USC section 2011 et seq., into cash shall be guilty of a felony.**

6 (1) A person to whom food stamps have been issued who converts or attempts to convert
7 the issued stamps to cash shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to not more than five (5) years
8 imprisonment, and disqualified from receiving food stamps for a period of five (5) years
9 following the date of his or her release from confinement.

10 (2) A person paying or offering to pay cash in return for food stamps issued to another
11 person shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to imprisonment for a period of not more than five (5)
12 years and fined an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

13 (3) A person attempting to, or converting to cash food stamps issued and belonging to
14 another person shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned for a period of not more than five (5) years
15 and fined an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====
LC00081
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- UNLAWFUL CONVERSION OF FOOD STAMPS

- 1 This act would make converting food stamps to cash a felony.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC00081
=====