



2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 255

September 15, 2011 – Introduced by Representatives E. COGGS, ROYS, TOLES, BEWLEY, HULSEY, BERCEAU, YOUNG and GRIGSBY. Referred to Committee on Public Health and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 49.79 (8) of the statutes; **relating to:** FoodShare benefits for
2 legal immigrants.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Before the 2011 biennial budget act (act), the Department of Health Services was required to provide benefits under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as the food stamp program and called FoodShare in Wisconsin) to qualified aliens, unless such benefits were restored by the federal government. Under federal law, a state may, but is not required to, provide SNAP benefits to qualified aliens, and any state that does provide such benefits must pay the whole cost itself. The act eliminated the provision of FoodShare benefits to qualified aliens, except to the extent that it is required under federal law. This bill restores FoodShare benefits to qualified aliens, unless such benefits are restored by the federal government.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 49.79 (8) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is
4 amended to read:

