



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 847

PRINTERS NO. 2512

PRIME SPONSOR: Walsh

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 847, Printer's Number 2512, amends the Human Services Code to prohibit the purchase of tobacco and tobacco paraphernalia with public assistance funds. This legislation is effective in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: HB 847 amends Section 484 (Prohibited Use of Public Assistance Funds) to ban the use of an access device to purchase tobacco and tobacco paraphernalia. This legislation also adds language that the prohibitions do not apply to funds deposited onto an access device which relate to child support or State blind pension payments. The Department of Human Services (DHS) shall not penalize or disqualify an individual unless the following are clearly demonstrated: the source of funds is public assistance; DHS informed the individual of the prohibitions; and the individual knowingly violated a provision of Section 484.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation is expected to have no adverse fiscal impact. While this legislation prohibits the purchase of tobacco and tobacco paraphernalia using public assistance funds, it is not known what items will be purchased in lieu of the prohibited purchases and whether these purchases are taxable or not.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: September 19, 2019

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.