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" A sponsor of legislation to combat the problem, Carrell says that Washington is hardly alone in this.. "Taxpayers are willing to help people who are in need," she adds "With people getting into the system fraudulently, money is not being used for its intended purpose.. Food stamps are. Up until recently I had always thought food stamps, It also never crossed my mind that I could buy beer and cigarettes with them until I watched a buddy of.. "You shouldn't be giving money to crooks," he adds "We should be helping legitimate people who have fallen on hard times.

The debit card equivalent of food stamps, the boy s foster mother and told her that EBT card holders shouldn t be buying cigarettes with taxpayer s.. Some buy liquor or cigarettes or tattoos or adult entertainment with EBT-card funds intended to buy food for their children.. (Food, however, can be bought with Minnesota's cards in any state ) Anyone who uses an EBT card to buy tobacco or alcohol is dropped from the system for one year after the first offense, two years after the second offense and permanently after the third offense.

One suggestion gaining favor: Eliminate any possibility of turning the cards into cash by forbidding their use at ATM machines and paying all bills automatically through debits from the cards.. "Naif admitted that he conducted illegal food stamp transactions and allowed customers to purchase merchandise such as cigarettes, illegal food stamp.

We just jumped on it sooner than many others " In fact, this is one issue on which members of both major parties often agree.. After four years on the job, a New Hampshire woman was fired because she refused to sell cigarettes to a customer who tried to pay with an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card (the debit card equivalent of food stamps), according to the Sentinel Source.. An additional law under consideration would require EBT card users to show a photo ID when making purchases and would specifically limit the use of TANF funds to purposes that benefit children.

And they are being abused -- frequently, easily and infuriatingly, according to critics.. While the abusers are a tiny minority, they are still costing taxpayers, with some saying the cost run into the billions of dollars.. "It's pretty hard, when the facts slam you in the face, to oppose common sense restrictions," Carrell says.. " National experts agree and say that aggressive action is being taken in response.. Mike Carrell of Washington state "We've uncovered millions of dollars of fraud.. 8 million in welfare funds had been withdrawn from ATM machines in California casinos in just eight months.. "The specific topic around EBT cards has come to light after various media reports in the last few years on how many withdrawals have been made in casinos or other locations. e10c415e6f