



State of Arizona
Department of Liquor Licenses and Control

Industry Notice

August 29, 2013

**NEW LAW MAKES SOME ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER (EBT)/QUEST CARD TRANSACTIONS
ILLEGAL AT LIQUOR STORES**

Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)/ Quest Card transactions will become unlawful at liquor stores after February 1, 2014.

A.R.S. §46-297(5) "Liquor store" means:

- (a) a retail establishment that exclusively or primarily sells liquor, but does not include a grocery store that sells both liquor and groceries, including staple foods.
- (b) an on-sale retailer as defined in section 4-101 if the on-sale retailer sells liquor in the original container for consumption off premises.

After February 1, 2014, licensees identified in A.R.S. §46-297(5)(a) and (b) will be in violation of Arizona liquor law if they operate:

1. an automatic teller machine (ATM) that allows a person to withdraw Cash Assistance benefits, or
2. a point-of-sale terminal that allows a person to make purchases at Point of Sale machines located inside liquor stores, casinos, horse or dog racing facilities, or adult entertainment establishments.

The new law reads:

A.R.S. §4-242.01 Prohibition of automatic teller machine or point-of-sale terminal that accepts electronic benefit transfer cards on premises

It is unlawful for a liquor store to operate on the licensed premises an automatic teller machine or a point-of-sale terminal that accepts electronic benefit transfer cards issued pursuant to Title 46, Chapter 2, Article 5 or that processes electronic benefit card transactions.

The penalty for violating the new law is:

A.R.S. §4-246 Violation; classification

A. A person violating any provision of this title is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor unless another classification is prescribed.

Notice of this change was sent to all active Cash Assistance EBT/Quest Cards holders on August 21, 2013 by the Arizona Department of Economic Security. The notice informed the head-of-household of the new transaction restrictions.

For more information contact John Bowen, Legislative Specialist, Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility, Department of Economic Security, johnbowen@azdes.gov or call 1-(855)HEAplus 1-(855)432-7587