

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2148

5 By: Representative Penzo  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT REGARDING THE USE OF SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION  
9 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) BENEFITS AND PUBLIC BENEFIT  
10 CARDS; TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION  
11 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) BENEFITS FUNDS TO PURCHASE  
12 LUXURY FOOD ITEMS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF SUPPLEMENTAL  
16 NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)  
17 BENEFITS FUNDS TO PURCHASE LUXURY FOOD  
18 ITEMS.  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 76, Subchapter 1, is  
25 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 20-76-114. Restrictions on use of public benefit cards.

27 (a)(1) The Department of Human Services shall work in conjunction with  
28 the Department of Health to develop a list of luxury food items.

29 (2)(A) The list of luxury food items shall include without  
30 limitation:

31 (i) Food items that are not conducive to human  
32 health, or are injurious to human health; and

33 (ii) Food items that are high in calories, sugar,  
34 and fat with negligible nutritional value.

35 (B) The list shall be developed using the nutritional  
36 standards recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture.



1           (b) The Department of Human Services shall ensure that Supplemental  
2 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are used only to purchase food  
3 items that are not deemed luxury food items by the Department of Human  
4 Services.

5           (c) The Department of Human Services shall seek a waiver from the  
6 United States Department of Agriculture to implement this section.

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