

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to restrictions on use of public
3 assistance benefits; creating s. 414.457, F.S.;
4 requiring the Department of Children and Families to
5 request a waiver to prohibit the use of Supplemental
6 Nutrition Assistance Program benefits to purchase soft
7 drinks or candy; requiring the department to renew its
8 request annually until a waiver is granted; defining
9 the terms "soft drink" and "candy"; providing an
10 effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Section 414.457, Florida Statutes, is created
15 to read:

16 414.457 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
17 purchases of soft drinks and candy prohibited.—The department
18 shall seek a waiver of federal requirements established under
19 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, 7 U.S.C. ss. 2011
20 et seq., to prohibit persons from using SNAP benefits to
21 purchase soft drinks or candy. If the request for a waiver is
22 denied, the department shall renew its request annually until a
23 waiver is granted.

24 (1) For the purpose of this section, a soft drink is a
25 flavored carbonated beverage that is sweetened with natural or
26 artificial sweeteners.

27 (2) For the purpose of this section, a candy is a food of
28 minimal nutritional value, made predominantly from natural or
29 artificial sweeteners which characterize the following types:

30 (a) Hard candies.

31 (b) Chocolates and candy bars.

32 (c) Jellies and gums.

33 (d) Marshmallow candies.

34 (e) Fondant.

35 (f) Licorice.

36 (g) Spun candy.

37 (h) Caramels.

38 (i) Candy-coated popcorn.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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