

Subject SNAP Demonstration Waiver

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Summary

This bill requires the commissioner of children, youth, and families to submit to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) a demonstration waiver request to prohibit the purchase of candy, energy drinks, and soda with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits; defines the terms “candy,” “energy drink,” and “soda;” and provides an immediate effective date.

The USDA has recently begun allowing states greater flexibility in managing the SNAP program by approving waivers that restrict the purchase of non-nutritious foods and beverages such as candy and soda. According to the USDA, as of March 17, 2026, 22 states have had such waivers approved.