



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 161
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Schaffer and Johnson

Emma Carroll, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Requires the Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to request a waiver from the federal government to exclude certain items from Ohio's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

SNAP exclusions

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal program administered by the states to provide low-income people with benefits to pay for food at approved retailers. The scope of covered food is established by federal regulations and includes "any food or food product intended for human consumption except alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and hot foods or hot food products prepared for immediate consumption."¹

S.B. 161 requires the Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a waiver to exclude certain items from purchase using SNAP benefits in Ohio. The excluded foods are (1) soft drinks, (2) candy, (3) chips, (4) ice cream, and (5) prepared desserts such as cakes, pies, cookies, or similar products.²

¹ 7 Code of Federal Regulations 271.2, not in the bill.

² R.C. 5101.548.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	04-01-25
