Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law. Act 969 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: S4/7/25		
2	95th General Assembly A Bill			
3	Regular Session, 2025 SENATE BILL		SENATE BILL 217	
4				
5	By: Senator C. Penzo			
6	By: Representative Bentley			
7				
8	For An Act To Be Entitled			
9	AN ACT TO AMEND THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE			
10	PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES			
11	TO REQUEST A WAIVER TO EXCLUDE CANDY AND SOFT DRINKS			
12	FROM ELIGIBLE FOODS UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION			
13	ASSISTANCE	PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.		
14				
15				
16		Subtitle		
17	TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN			
18	SERVICES TO REQUEST A WAIVER TO EXCLUDE			
19	CANDY AND SOFT DRINKS FROM ELIGIBLE			
20	FOODS UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION			
21	ASSIST	TANCE PROGRAM.		
22				
23	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GE	NERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF AR	RKANSAS:	
24				
25		sas Code Title 20, Chapter 76, Su	-	
26	amended to add an additional section to read as follows:			
27	20-76-120. Waiver to enhance nutrition in the Supplemental Nutrition			
28	Assistance Program.			
29	The Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall request a			
30	waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture to exclude candy and			
31	soft drinks from the definition of eligible foods under 7 C.F.R. § 271.2, as			
32	it existed on January 1, 2025.			
33		(1) If a waiver requested under this section is granted, the		
34	secretary shall prohibit the purchase of candy and soft drinks with benefits			
35	provided through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.			
36	<u>(2) If the</u>	<u>waiver requested under this sect</u>	ion is not granted,	



1	the secretary shall request a waiver annually until the waiver to exclude
2	candy and soft drinks from the definition of eligible foods is granted.
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4	/s/C. Penzo
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7	APPROVED: 4/21/25
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