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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2       amended by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
3       designated and to read as follows:

4       "§346-       Supplemental nutrition assistance program;  
5       sugary drinks and candy; ineligible foods. (a) The purpose of  
6       this section is to exclude sugary drinks and candy from foods  
7       eligible for purchase in Hawaii with benefits from the  
8       supplemental nutrition assistance program of the United States  
9       Department of Agriculture, in a transparent, accountable, and  
10       durable manner, that complies with federal requirements.  
11       (b) The department shall request any necessary State  
12       waivers or waiver extensions from the United States Department  
13       of Agriculture in accordance with 7 United States Code  
14       section 2026 to prohibit the use of benefits under the  
15       supplemental nutrition assistance program to purchase sugary  
16       drinks or candy.



1        (c) If a waiver or waiver extension requested under  
2        subsection (b) is granted, the department shall prohibit the  
3        purchase of sugary drinks and candy using supplemental nutrition  
4        assistance program benefits, in compliance with the terms and  
5        conditions of the waiver.

6        (d) If any necessary waiver or waiver extension from the  
7        United States Department of Agriculture is not granted, then the  
8        department shall submit the waiver or waiver extension request  
9        under subsection (b) annually until the waiver is granted.

10       (e) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to  
11       chapter 91 to implement this section, consistent with any terms  
12       and conditions of the waiver.

13       (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to conflict  
14       with supplemental nutrition assistance program requirements or  
15       other federal law.

16       (g) As used in this section:

17       "Candy" means any confectionery product primarily composed  
18       of sugar, sweeteners, or chocolate.

19       "Sugary drink" means any non-alcoholic beverage that is  
20       sweetened with more than ten grams of sugar per serving.

21       "Sugary drink" does not include a beverage that contains milk;



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1 milk products; soy, rice, or other milk substitutes; or that is  
2 greater than fifty per cent vegetable or fruit juice by volume."

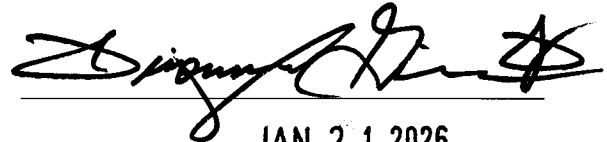
3 SECTION 2. The department shall submit an annual report to  
4 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening  
5 of each regular session detailing the status of any waiver or  
6 waiver extension requests, a list of foods made ineligible by  
7 waiver, and any impacts of the implementation of any waivers.

8 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 21 2026



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**Report Title:**

DHS; SNAP; Eligible Foods; Sugary Drinks; Candy; Restriction; Reports

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Human Services to request and implement waivers or waiver extensions from the federal government to make sugary drinks and candy ineligible foods for purchase with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. Requires annual reports to the legislature on waiver status, ineligible foods, and implementation impacts.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

