

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; requiring the department to renew its request
 8 annually until a waiver is granted; defining the term
 9 "soft drink"; providing an effective date.

10
 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12
 13 Section 1. Section 414.457, Florida Statutes, is created
 14 to read:

15 414.457 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
 16 purchases of soft drinks prohibited.—The department shall seek a
 17 waiver of federal requirements established under the
 18 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), 7 U.S.C. ss.
 19 2011 et seq., to prohibit persons from using SNAP benefits to
 20 purchase soft drinks. If the request for a waiver is denied, the
 21 department shall renew its request annually until a waiver is
 22 granted. For the purpose of this section, a soft drink is a
 23 flavored carbonated beverage that is sweetened with natural or
 24 artificial sweeteners.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.