

1 SENATE BILL 186

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pat Woods and Rex Wilson and Jay C. Block

10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; PROHIBITING FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL
12 NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BENEFITS FROM BEING USED TO
13 PURCHASE SWEETENED DRINKS AND CANDY.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. A new section of the Public Assistance Act is
17 enacted to read:

18 "[NEW MATERIAL] SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE--
19 PROHIBITED USES.--

20 A. A person who receives benefits from the federal
21 supplemental nutrition assistance program shall not use those
22 benefits to purchase a sweetened drink or candy.

23 B. As used in this section:

24 (1) "candy" means a preparation of sugar,
25 honey or other natural or artificial sweeteners in combination

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 with chocolate, fruits, nuts or other ingredients or flavorings
2 in the form of bars, drops or pieces; and

3 (2) "sweetened drink" means a nonalcoholic
4 beverage made with water that contains five grams or more of
5 added sugar or any amount of artificial sweeteners. "Sweetened
6 drink" does not include a beverage that contains:

7 (a) milk or milk products;
8 (b) soymilk, rice milk or similar milk
9 substitutes; or
10 (c) at least fifty percent vegetable or
11 fruit juice by volume."

12 - 2 -
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete