

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015**

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SENATE RESOLUTION 692

Sponsors: Senators Brock (Primary Sponsor); Hartsell and B. Jackson.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 30, 2015

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO LIMIT THE TYPES OF FOOD
2 ELIGIBLE FOR PURCHASE UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
3 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) TO NUTRITIOUS FOODS.

4 Whereas, according to data collected by the Centers for Disease Control and
5 Prevention (CDC), one in three children is obese or overweight before their fifth birthday; and

6 Whereas, according to the CDC, obese children are more likely to have high blood
7 pressure, high cholesterol, and type 2 diabetes, which are risk factors for cardiovascular
8 disease, and obese children are more likely to become obese adults; and

9 Whereas, according to the U.S. Census of 2009, the number of U.S. citizens in
10 poverty is the largest number in the 51 years poverty estimates have been published; and

11 Whereas, low-income families typically have less access to both healthy food
12 choices as well as opportunities for physical activity; and

13 Whereas, the CDC lists various priority strategies for decreasing early childhood
14 obesity, including increasing physical activity, increasing fruit and vegetable consumption, and
15 reducing energy dense food and sugar consumption; and

16 Whereas, First Lady Michelle Obama has launched a "Let's Move" initiative that
17 seeks to eliminate obesity in a generation and has as a few of its main points of action (i)
18 providing healthy food in schools and (ii) improving access to healthy affordable foods; and

19 Whereas, the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 defines food as "any food or food
20 product for home consumption except alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and hot foods or hot food
21 products ready for immediate consumption...[and includes as eligible food items] seeds and
22 plants for use in gardens to produce food for the personal consumption of the eligible
23 household..."; and

24 Whereas, the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 also includes as eligible food items
25 that may have little or no nutritional value, such as soft drinks, candy, cakes, and cookies; and

26 Whereas, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal aid
27 program established pursuant to federal law to provide benefits to eligible SNAP recipients;
28 and

29 Whereas, amending the definition of "food" under the Food and Nutrition Act of
30 2008 to limit the types of food eligible for purchase under SNAP to nutritious foods would
31 require action by Congress; Now, therefore,

32 Be it resolved by the Senate:

33 **SECTION 1.** The Senate urges Congress to amend the definition of "food" under
34 the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to limit the types of food purchases eligible under the
35 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to nutritious foods.

36 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
37 to each member of North Carolina's Congressional delegation.



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SECTION 3. This resolution is effective upon adoption.