**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 43‑5‑250 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO MANAGE THE FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND TO APPLY FOR WAIVERS OF FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE PROGRAM THAT PROMOTE NUTRITIOUS DIETS, INCLUDING WAIVERS TO RESTRICT ALLOWABLE FOOD CHOICES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 5, Title 43 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 43‑5‑250. (A) For purposes of this section, ‘SNAP’ means the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which is the federal food purchasing assistance program for low‑ and no‑income individuals created pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1977. The Department of Social Services shall serve as the single state agency designated to receive SNAP funding and manage the program. The provisions of this section, regulations promulgated to implement this section, and department policy and procedure must be consistent with the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and with federal regulations promulgated to implement that act.

(B) The department shall apply for federal waivers of SNAP program requirements that promote a healthy diet for program participants, including reasonable restrictions on food purchases of minimal nutritional value such as soft drinks, candy, and high‑fat chips.

(C) The department shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this section.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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