



May 13, 2025

Ohio Senate Health Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus Ohio 43215

Re: Manufacturers Request for Removal of House SNAP Restriction

Chair Huffman and Members of the Senate Health Committee,

On behalf of the Ohio Manufacturers' Association, I write to express our opposition to the SNAP purchase restriction language in Substitute House Bill 96. Our organization stands with a coalition of Ohio's businesses, grocers, retailers, wholesalers, farmers, and food and beverage producers against this provision.

We strongly urge the removal of this provision. It would create a confusing statewide patchwork of regulations, adding unnecessary complexity and administrative burdens for manufacturers, retailers, and the entire supply chain. Implementing a state-specific SNAP food code would require the creation of a complex new bureaucracy to oversee compliance, inevitably expanding government while failing to achieve the intended goals of cost savings or public health improvement.

Additionally, this restriction sends a damaging message about doing business in Ohio. Our state has long prioritized reducing red tape and encouraging economic growth. Adopting this measure would signal a troubling shift in the opposite direction, undermining the success of Ohio's food and beverage producers—an industry that supports over 60,000 in our state.

The Ohio Manufacturers' Association believes in supporting free-market solutions and consumer choice. Rather than favoring specific products through restrictions, we encourage the state to support proven programs like Produce Perks and SNAP-Ed, which empower consumers to make healthier choices without government picking winners and losers.

The OMA respectfully requests the removal of the SNAP purchase restriction provision from Substitute House Bill 96. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James Lee
Managing Director, Public Policy Services
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
jlee@ohiomfg.com