



June 24, 2025

The Honorable Mike DeWine  
Governor of the State of Ohio  
77 South High Street, 30th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine:

On behalf of a broad coalition of businesses, grocers, retailers, wholesalers, farmers, and food and beverage producers across Ohio, we write to respectfully urge you to exercise your line-item veto authority to remove the SNAP purchase restriction language now included in the final state budget bill as passed by the conference committee.

We are deeply disappointed by the conference committee's decision to include provisions that restrict the types of food and beverages SNAP participants may purchase. These restrictions represent a dramatic and unprecedented change to the SNAP program in Ohio—one that will burden retailers, confuse shoppers, and undermine the program's core purpose of helping families in temporary need of assistance.

While we appreciate the conference committee's intent to improve health outcomes and we continue to share that goal, this approach is misguided. SNAP restrictions of this kind have not been proven effective and will disproportionately affect low-income families, small businesses, and rural grocers already struggling to meet community needs. These rules also create unnecessary complexity and cost for the thousands of Ohio retailers tasked with implementing them.

Governor, we strongly urge you to veto this provision and instead support proven, evidence-based programs such as Produce Perks and SNAP-Ed that promote nutrition without taking food choices away from families. These approaches build health through empowerment, not restriction.

Your leadership can prevent harmful policy from taking effect, and we are confident Ohio can find better ways to promote wellness without sacrificing food access, business sustainability, or personal dignity. Thank you for considering our urgent request. We remain committed to working with your administration and the General Assembly to advance practical solutions that strengthen Ohio's health, economy, and communities.

Respectfully submitted,

On behalf of the following organizations:

- Ohio Bakers Association
- Ohio Beverage Association
- Ohio Business Roundtable
- Can Manufacturers Institute
- Ohio Chamber of Commerce
- Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
- Ohio Dairy Producers Association
- The Ohio Energy & Convenience Association
- The Food Industry Association
- Ohio Grocers Association
- Ohio Manufacturers Association
- Ohio Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
- Ohio Wholesale Marketers Association
- National Confectioners Association
- SNAC International