

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2021-086

1
2 State of Arkansas
3 93rd General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S4/14/21

A Bill

SENATE BILL 650

5
6 By: Senator J. Dismang

7 Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASSET LIMITS FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL
11 NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; TO ALLOW FOR AN
12 ADJUSTMENT TO THE ASSET LIMIT BASED UPON INFLATION;
13 TO INCLUDE AN AUTOMATIC INFLATION ADJUSTMENT; TO
14 DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO REQUEST A
15 BROAD-BASED CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY WAIVER; AND FOR
16 OTHER PURPOSES.

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19 **Subtitle**

20 TO AMEND THE ASSET LIMITS FOR THE
21 SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
22 PROGRAM; AND TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF
23 HUMAN SERVICES TO REQUEST A BROAD-BASED
24 CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY WAIVER.

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27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-76-115 is amended to read as follows:
30 20-76-115. ~~Federal resource~~ Resource limits for Supplemental Nutrition
31 Assistance Program ~~– Broad-based categorical eligibility waiver.~~

32 (a) ~~Unless required by federal law:~~

33 ~~(1) The resource limit standards of the Supplemental Nutrition~~
34 ~~Assistance Program shall not exceed the standards specified in 7 U.S.C. §~~
35 ~~2014(g)(1); and~~

~~(2) Categorical eligibility that exempts households from the federal resource limit standards shall not be granted for any noncash, in-kind, or other benefit.~~

(b) Unless required by federal law, the Department of Human Services shall not:

(1) Apply gross income standards for food assistance higher than the standards specified in 7 U.S.C. § 2014(c); or

(2) Grant categorical eligibility that exempts households from the gross income standard under subdivision ~~(b)(1)~~ (a)(1) of this section for any noncash, in-kind, or other benefit unless under a broad-based categorical eligibility waiver obtained under subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The Department of Human Services shall request a broad-based categorical eligibility waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture to exempt Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program applicants and enrollees from the federal resource limit.

(c)(1) Upon obtaining the broad-based categorical eligibility waiver requested under subsection (b) of this section, the asset limit under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program shall be double the amount of the asset limit allowable under applicable federal law, as it existed on January 1, 2021.

(2) The asset limit shall be automatically adjusted for inflation on a biennial basis.

/s/J. Dismang

Referred requested by the Arkansas Senate

Prepared by: MBM/KFW