



**STATEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION
COMMISSIONER ROBERT DOAR ON THE USDA'S DENIAL OF
SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE (SNAP) WAIVER**

“Because the USDA rejected this initiative, the City lost an excellent opportunity to reduce obesity and other illnesses related to sugary beverages. The primary goal of the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, also known as the Food Stamp program, has always been to supplement a household's income with nutritious foods. By turning down our demonstration project, the federal government is simultaneously subsidizing the largest single contributor of obesity and diabetes. Additionally, with food prices increasing, restricting sugary beverages would have allowed more dollars to go towards nutritional foods for families and individuals who need to apply for food stamp benefits.”