Obesity and $41 Food Stamp Cake

One Wall Street Journal writer recently described his experience standing in line in a grocery store. The woman in front of him had a very large ice cream cake. The cashier rung it up and said, “Forty-one dollars.” He stared, but the woman just whipped out her government electronic benefits card – her food stamps – and off she went.

EBT cards are used to purchase a array of food items. Only liquor and cigarettes are forbidden and food stamp benefits are so rich that people sell their cards for cash or use them to shop for others. Politicians say they’re concerned about obesity but with 48 million Americans with EBT cards, why aren’t they trying to restrict what can be purchased with food stamps?