
DIGEST

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HB 282 Re-Reengrossed

2023 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Requires free school breakfast and lunch for certain public school students.

Present law provides for the provision of school meals. Proposed law:

- (1) Provides that students in grades kindergarten through 12 who qualify for reduced-price meals shall be provided breakfast and lunch at no cost to the student.
- (2) Provides that for each breakfast or lunch served free of charge in accordance with proposed law, the state Dept. of Education shall reimburse the governing authority of a nutrition program provider for the meal an amount equal to the difference between the reimbursement rates provided by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture for a free meal and a reduced-price meal.
- (3) Provides that proposed law shall be implemented beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
- (4) Provides that proposed law shall become effective when an Act of the legislature containing a specific appropriation of monies for the implementation of proposed law becomes effective.

(Adds R.S. 17:192(B)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Limit applicability of proposed law to students who qualify for reduced-price school meals.
2. Require reimbursement by the state Dept. of Education.

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Change the language referencing a "free breakfast and lunch" to "breakfast and lunch at no cost to the student."
2. Add language that students eligible for the program shall be in grades kindergarten

through 12.

3. Change the language referencing the "national school breakfast and school lunch programs" to "school breakfast program and national school lunch program."
4. Provide that the Department of Education shall reimburse the authority of a school lunch program for each meal served equal to the difference between the reimbursement rates for a free meal and a reduced-price meal as annually determined by the USDA.

The House Floor Amendments to the reengrossed bill:

1. Add that proposed law shall become effective when an Act containing a specific appropriation of monies for proposed law implementation becomes effective.