SLS 25RS-833

ENGROSSED

2025 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATORS MCMATH AND BOUDREAUX

NUTRITION. Memorializes Congress to direct the United States Department of Agriculture to reinstate and fund the Local Food for Schools Program.

| 1 | A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION |
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| 2 | To memorialize the Congress of the United States to direct the United States Department of |
| 3 | Agriculture to reinstate and fund the Local Food for Schools Program to support |
| 4 | Louisiana farmers, strengthen local food systems, and improve nutrition for children |
| 5 | and communities, in alignment with national efforts to improve public health through |
| 6 | locally grown food. |
| 7 | WHEREAS, the USDA Local Food for Schools (LFS) Program provided critical |
| 8 | funding to help school districts purchase and serve locally grown, nutritious food products |
| 9 | from regional farmers and producers; and |
| 10 | WHEREAS, the LFS Program allocated approximately three million dollars annually |
| 11 | to the state of Louisiana, directly benefitting school food authorities and creating new market |
| 12 | opportunities for farmers across the state; and |
| 13 | WHEREAS, this funding enabled Louisiana school districts to procure fresh fruits, |
| 14 | vegetables, dairy, meats, and grains produced in Louisiana, nourishing students while |
| 15 | investing in the local agricultural economy; and |
| 16 | WHEREAS, the program fostered meaningful partnerships between farmers, food |
| 17 | hubs, cooperatives, and schools, supporting resilient, community-based food systems that |
| 18 | address hunger, improve health outcomes, and stimulate rural development; and |
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| 1 | WHEREAS, the discontinuation of the Local Food for Schools Program has |
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| 2 | disrupted local supply chains, reduced school districts' purchasing power, and limited access |
| 3 | to healthy, locally sourced meals for Louisiana's children; and |
| 4 | WHEREAS, restoring this program aligns with broader national goals, including |
| 5 | efforts to "Make America Healthy Again" by improving access to unprocessed, |
| 6 | nutrient-dense, and locally produced food, particularly in school settings, and reducing |
| 7 | diet-related chronic disease in children and families; and |
| 8 | WHEREAS, investment in local food systems strengthens food security, promotes |
| 9 | preventive health, and supports economic development across Louisiana and the United |
| 10 | States. |
| 11 | THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby |
| 12 | memorialize the Congress of the United States to direct the United States Department of |
| 13 | Agriculture to reinstate and provide long-term funding for the Local Food for Schools |
| 14 | Program. |
| 15 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the |
| 16 | president of the United States, the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, |
| 17 | and each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation. |
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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST SCR 20 Engrossed 2025 Regular Session McMath

Memorializes Congress to direct the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture to reinstate and fund the Local Food for Schools Program.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

<u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry,</u> <u>Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the original bill</u>

- 1. Clarify language for Congress to direct U.S. Department of Agriculture to reinstate funding to LFS Program.
- 2. Update amount allocated by the LFS Program.