
DIGEST

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HB 218 Original

2026 Regular Session

LaFleur

Abstract: Requires the administration of screenings for food insecurity to public school students.

Proposed law:

- (1) Requires school boards to establish a program for screening students for food insecurity at schools and school-based health clinics, including the administration of a screening tool to students in grades kindergarten through 12 when a student first enrolls in a school and once during each semester of enrollment thereafter. Requires incorporation of the screening tool into assessments at student visits to school-based health clinics.
- (2) Requires that program to provide for standardized procedures in the event of screening results that indicate that a student is at risk for food insecurity, including but not limited to family outreach and referral to community resources.
- (3) Requires that results remain confidential except for disclosure to a student's parent or legal guardian or to the student if he has reached the age of majority or is an emancipated minor and to authorized school personnel responsible for the implementation of procedures for such referral.
- (4) Requires that the state Dept. of Education, in consultation with the La. Dept. of Health, select a food insecurity screening tool that is available at no cost to the state or to school boards and age-appropriate for students and provide information about how to access this tool to each school board.
- (5) Prohibits school employees from using the results of the screening to make any decision relating to student instruction, academic opportunities, or discipline.

Proposed law is applicable to all public schools, including charter schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:2113 and 3996(B)(24))