

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Hunger-Free Campus Pilot
3 Program; providing a short title; establishing the
4 Hunger-Free Campus Pilot Program within the Department
5 of Agriculture and Consumer Services; providing the
6 purpose of the program; providing definitions;
7 requiring the Commissioner of Agriculture to select
8 three state universities or Florida College System
9 institutions for participation in the program;
10 providing criteria for the selection of such
11 universities or institutions; providing requirements
12 for participating universities and institutions;
13 requiring participating universities and institutions
14 to submit a report to the department; requiring the
15 commissioner to submit a report to the Governor and
16 the Legislature by a specified date; specifying
17 requirements for the reports; authorizing the
18 department to adopt rules; requiring the Office of
19 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability
20 to conduct a study to evaluate food insecurity on the
21 campuses of Florida College System institutions and
22 state universities; providing requirements for the
23 office and the study; requiring the office to submit a
24 report to the Legislature by a specified date;
25 providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Hunger-Free Campus Act."

Section 2. (1) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Hunger-Free Campus Pilot Program is established within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to support efforts to fight hunger on the campuses of public postsecondary educational institutions. The program is established for a period of 1 year beginning July 1, 2023.

(2) For purposes of this section, the term:

(a) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

(3) The commissioner shall select the three state universities or Florida College System institutions with the highest percentage of students receiving a Pell Grant to participate in the program.

(4) A participating state university or Florida College System institution participating in the program shall:

(a) Establish a hunger task force, which includes representatives from the student body and which meets at least three times during the program, to set at least two goals to address hunger on campus, each with an action plan.

51 (b) Designate a staff member responsible for assisting
52 students with enrollment in the Supplemental Nutrition
53 Assistance Program (SNAP) as defined in s. 414.456(1), Florida
54 Statutes.

55 (c) Provide options for students to use SNAP benefits at
56 campus stores or provide students with information on
57 establishments in the area surrounding the campus at which they
58 can use SNAP electronic benefit transfer cards.

59 (d) Host an activity or event during Hunger and
60 Homelessness Awareness Week to promote awareness of hunger on
61 the nation's campuses.

62 (e) Provide at least one physical food pantry on campus or
63 enable students to receive food at no cost through a separate,
64 stigma-free process. The campus may partner with a local food
65 bank or food pantry to meet this requirement.

66 (f) Develop a student meal credit donation program or
67 designate a certain amount of funds for free food vouchers which
68 might otherwise be raised through such a program.

69 (g) Conduct a student survey on hunger, developed by the
70 department, and submit the results of the survey and a best
71 practices campus profile to the department at a date prescribed
72 by the department for inclusion in a comparative profile of each
73 campus designated as a hunger-free campus.

74 (5) (a) Each participating state university or Florida
75 College System institution shall submit a report to the

76 department, in the manner the department prescribes, which
 77 describes how the university or institution implemented the
 78 program and the results from such program.

79 (b) The commissioner shall submit a report on the program
 80 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
 81 the House of Representatives by January 1, 2025. The report must
 82 include, but need not be limited to, the impact of the program
 83 on establishing hunger-free campuses at participating state
 84 universities or Florida College System institutions; the impact
 85 of the program on reducing the number of students experiencing
 86 food insecurity; and recommendations regarding future funding
 87 and implementation for the program.

88 (6) The department may adopt rules to implement the
 89 program.

90 Section 3. (1) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and
 91 Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study to
 92 evaluate food insecurity on the campuses of Florida College
 93 System institutions and state universities.

94 (2) The study must include recommendations for any changes
 95 to general law, Board of Governor regulations, or State Board of
 96 Education rules needed to address food insecurity on the
 97 campuses of Florida College System institutions and state
 98 universities.

99 (3) In conducting the study, OPPAGA shall consult with the
 100 Board of Governors of the State University System, the Florida

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101 College System, the Department of Education, and any other
102 relevant stakeholders.

103 (4) OPPAGA shall submit a report on its findings to the
104 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
105 Representatives by December 1, 2023.

106 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.