

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 235**

Introduced by Walz, 15.

Read first time January 11, 2017

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Summer Food Service Program; to amend
- 2 section 79-10,141, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to clarify
- 3 grant requirements; and to repeal the original section.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 79-10,141, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,  
2 is amended to read:

3 79-10,141 (1) Because children are susceptible to hunger in the  
4 summertime, resulting in negative health effects, the Legislature  
5 intends, as a state nutrition and health policy, that the State of  
6 Nebraska's participation in the Summer Food Service Program of the United  
7 States Department of Agriculture be strengthened where it is needed to  
8 provide adequate nutrition for children.

9 (2) To encourage participation and utilization of the Summer Food  
10 Service Program, the department shall:

11 (a) Provide information to sponsors concerning the benefits and  
12 availability of the Summer Food Service Program; and

13 (b) Award grants of up to fifteen thousand dollars on a competitive  
14 basis to sponsors approved by the department. Grants awarded under this  
15 section may be used for nonrecurring expenses incurred in initiating or  
16 expanding services under the Summer Food Service Program, including, but  
17 not limited to, the acquisition of equipment, salaries of staff, training  
18 of staff in new capacities, outreach efforts to publicize new or expanded  
19 services under the Summer Food Service Program, minor alterations to  
20 accommodate new equipment, computer point-of-service systems for food  
21 service, and the purchase of vehicles for transporting food to sites.  
22 Funds may be expended up to the full cost of a qualifying expense  
23 incurred by a sponsor in initiating or expanding the services under the  
24 Summer Food Service Program, and if the funds are expended solely for the  
25 benefit of child nutrition programs administered by the department, no  
26 proration of the expense shall be required. Funds shall not be used for  
27 food, computers, except point-of-service systems, or capital outlay. The  
28 total amount of grants awarded under this section shall be limited to one  
29 hundred forty thousand dollars per fiscal year.

30 (3) In awarding grants under this section, the department shall give  
31 preference in the following order of priority to:

1 (a) Sponsors located within the boundaries of school districts in  
2 which fifty percent or more of the students apply and qualify for free  
3 and reduced-price lunches or located within the boundaries of a census  
4 tract in which fifty percent or more of the children fall under the  
5 poverty threshold as defined by the United States Department of  
6 Agriculture;

7 (b) Sponsors in which health or education activities are emphasized;  
8 and

9 (c) Sponsors that participate in the Summer Food Service Program at  
10 the time of grant application.

11 (4) Sponsors may apply for grants under this section by:

12 (a) Submitting to the department a plan to start or expand services  
13 under the Summer Food Service Program;

14 (b) Agreeing to operate the Summer Food Service Program for a period  
15 of not less than two years; and

16 (c) Assuring that the expenditure of funds from state and local  
17 resources for the maintenance of other child nutrition programs  
18 administered by the department shall not be diminished as a result of  
19 grants received under this section.

20 Sec. 2. Original section 79-10,141, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
21 Nebraska, is repealed.