
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5361

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators McDermott, Swecker, Pridemore, Oemig, Marr, Jarrett, Kohl-Welles, Fraser, Kline, Murray, Kastama, McCaslin, Shin, Haugen, and Kilmer)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to feeding hungry children through school breakfast
2 and lunch programs and summer food service programs; amending RCW
3 28A.235.150 and 28A.235.155; and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that children put a
6 face on a troubled economy. As families lose their livelihoods and
7 their homes, it becomes more difficult for them to ensure their
8 children receive adequate nutrition. Despite the challenges also faced
9 by the state in a troubled economy, it is the legislature's intent to
10 maintain its current commitment, to the maximum extent possible, to
11 feed hungry low-income students in public schools at no cost to the
12 students. It is the intent of the legislature to ensure that all low-
13 income students in public schools receive a nutritious school breakfast
14 at no charge, and all low-income students in elementary schools receive
15 school lunch at no charge. It is the legislature's goal over time to
16 phase in the free provision of school lunches to all low-income
17 students at all grade levels. It is further the intent of the
18 legislature to invest strategically in capacity building and provision

1 of meals to low-income children during the summer months because
2 children continue to need nutritious meals when school is not in
3 operation during the summer.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.235.150 and 1993 c 333 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) To the extent funds are appropriated, the superintendent of
7 public instruction may award grants to school districts to increase
8 participation in school breakfast and lunch programs, to improve
9 program quality, and to improve the equipment and facilities used in
10 the programs. School districts shall demonstrate that they have
11 applied for applicable federal funds before applying for funds under
12 this subsection.

13 (2) To the extent funds are appropriated, the superintendent of
14 public instruction shall increase the state support for school
15 breakfasts and lunches.

16 (3) Subject to appropriation, funds must be allocated to school
17 districts sufficient to:

18 (a) Eliminate the copayment for breakfast for all students
19 qualifying for reduced-price lunch; and

20 (b) Eliminate the copayment for lunch for any students in grades
21 kindergarten through three that qualify for reduced-price lunch.

22 (4) To the extent funds are appropriated, the superintendent of
23 public instruction shall eliminate the copayment for lunch for any
24 students in grades preschool through five that qualify for reduced-
25 price lunch.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.235.155 and 1993 c 333 s 4 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall administer funds
29 for the federal summer food service program. To the extent funds are
30 appropriated, the superintendent of public instruction shall provide
31 state support for summer food service programs. State funds received
32 by organizations operating summer food service programs must be used to
33 support operating costs of the program, including food and labor costs,
34 unless specific appropriations for nonoperating costs are provided.

35 (2) The superintendent of public instruction may award grants, to
36 the extent funds are appropriated, to eligible organizations to help

1 start new summer food service programs for children or to help expand
2 summer food services for children. The superintendent of public
3 instruction shall conduct two cycles of grant awards per school year,
4 with a fall cycle of grants of up to twenty thousand dollars to build
5 local capacity to provide summer food service programs and a spring
6 cycle of grants of up to five thousand dollars for expenses related to
7 providing outreach and for planning and administrative tasks associated
8 with initiating a new program. Organizations receiving grants in the
9 fall cycle must outline target communities, potential service sites,
10 and partnering organizations in their grant application and provide
11 background information and evidence of successful community program
12 development.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The office of the superintendent of public
14 instruction shall report to the education committees of the legislature
15 by January 15, 2011, on the use of the grants provided under section 3
16 of this act and on outcomes related to the summer food service
17 programs, including the number of children who were provided meals
18 through the programs in the summer of 2009 and 2010.

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