

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 236

BY SENATOR JACKSON

NUTRITION. Removes the reduced-price copayment for school meals. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:195(A)(2), relative to school nutrition programs; to provide
3 relative to payments for school meals; to provide for reimbursement for costs of
4 certain school meals; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:195(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §195. Operation of nutrition program; general powers of governing authorities of
8 nutrition program providers; forbidden acts; penalties

9 A. * * *

10 (2)(a) No student shall be requested to pay more than the actual cost of the
11 lunch, less the amount of reimbursement paid to the nutrition program provider from
12 state and federal funds.

13 **(b)(i) Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, breakfast and lunch**
14 **shall be provided free of charge to each eligible student. An eligible student is**
15 **a student who meets the federal eligibility guidelines for reduced price meals by**
16 **household size and income levels pursuant to the national school breakfast and**
17 **school lunch programs.**

1 **(ii) For each breakfast or lunch served free of charge in accordance with**
 2 **Item (i) of this Subparagraph, the state Department of Education shall**
 3 **reimburse the governing authority of a nutrition program provider for the meal**
 4 **an amount equal to the difference between the reimbursement rates provided**
 5 **by the United States Department of Agriculture for a free meal and a reduced-**
 6 **price meal.**

* * *

8 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 9 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 10 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 11 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 12 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 236 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Jackson

Present law provides for the operation of school nutrition programs. Further provides that no student shall be requested to pay more than the actual cost of the lunch, less the amount of reimbursement paid to the nutrition program provider from state and federal funds.

Proposed law provides that beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, breakfast and lunch shall be provided free of charge to each eligible student. An eligible student is a student who meets the federal eligibility guidelines for reduced-price meals by household size and income levels pursuant to the national school breakfast and school lunch programs.

Proposed law provides that for each breakfast or lunch served free of charge in accordance with proposed law, the state Department of Education shall reimburse the governing authority of a nutrition program provider for the meal at an amount equal to the difference between the reimbursement rates provided by the United States Department of Agriculture for a free meal and a reduced-price meal.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:195(A)(2))