

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 567

BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYD, BACALA, BRASS, BRYANT, CARPENTER, DESHOTEL, FISHER, FREEMAN, GREEN, LAFLEUR, LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, DUSTIN MILLER, NEWELL, PIERRE, SCHLEGEL, SELDERS, THOMPSON, WHITE, AND WILLARD AND SENATOR BARROW

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:195.2, relative to school nutrition programs; to create a pilot program to
3 be implemented in certain schools; to require the State Board of Elementary and
4 Secondary Education and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry to collaborate
5 relative to the pilot program; requires the state Department of Education to
6 administer the pilot program; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:195.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §195.2. Lifestyle Choices pilot program

10 A. The legislature finds that:

11 (1) Children can make more healthy choices with increased access to fresh,
12 unprocessed produce; whole, healthy grains; and lean sources of protein that all
13 contribute to a balanced diet.

14 (2) Offering healthier options to children is one way to get students involved
15 in nutrition.

16 (3) Some students do not get well-rounded meals at home, which makes the
17 food they eat at school even more significant.

18 (4) School lunches should be composed of more health-conscious food and
19 less processed food.

20 (5) Louisiana students need a base of healthy eating habits that include
21 eating lean meats, fish, fresh produce, and dairy and an understanding of the food
22 pyramid.

23 B.(1) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, in
24 collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, shall develop and

1 implement a program whereby fresh food is incorporated into school-provided
2 lunches at certain schools. The state Department of Education shall administer the
3 program, the purpose of which is assisting school and school food service personnel
4 to identify and utilize all available resources to increase the variety of healthy food
5 options in school nutrition programs.

6 (2) The Department of Education shall identify and select public school
7 governing authorities for operation of a pilot program as defined by this Section.

8 (3) The Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture and
9 Forestry shall collaboratively:

10 (a) Provide an inventory of food distribution companies with which public
11 schools or school districts may contract.

12 (b) Disseminate procurement guidelines, school food safety information, and
13 liability insurance requirements to food distribution companies that can potentially
14 contract with schools and school districts for the implementation of the pilot
15 program.

16 (c) Consult with the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, the
17 Southern University Agricultural Center, the Louisiana Farm to School Alliance, and
18 other stakeholders, as necessary.

19 C. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Department
20 of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Department of Education shall utilize existing
21 personnel and resources for the development, implementation, and administration of
22 this program.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____