Session of 2024

HOUSE BILL No. 2769

By Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

Requested by Representative Hougland on behalf of Representatives Carr, Featherston, Meyer, D. Miller and Oropeza

2-8

 AN ACT concerning public assistance; relating to public schools and school districts; requiring schools and school districts to participate in federal meal programs for students; providing for reimbursement for free meals provided to students; including calculation of reimbursement for all public schools and school districts.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

8 Section 1. (a) Public schools, as defined in K.S.A. 72-6131, and 9 amendments thereto, and public school districts shall make available a 10 nutritionally adequate breakfast and lunch free of charge to any student 11 who requests for such meal, without consideration of the student's 12 eligibility for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal.

13 (b) Public schools and school districts shall participate in and comply 14 with federal requirements for the national school lunch program pursuant 15 to 42 U.S.C. § 1751 and the school breakfast program pursuant to 42. 16 U.S.C. § 1773. Each year, each public school or public school district shall 17 determine whether such school or district is qualified to elect to participate 18 in the community eligibility provision authorized pursuant to 7 C.F.R. § 19 245.9(f) or under provision 2 pursuant to 7 C.F.R. § 245.9(b) and shall 20 make such election if so qualified.

21 (c) Subject to appropriations, the state board of education shall 22 provide meal reimbursements to public schools and public school districts 23 that provide free meals in an amount not to exceed the total cost of meals 24 claimed by students pursuant to subsection (a) minus the federal 25 reimbursement amounts that such schools or districts receive based on the 26 free combined breakfast and lunch reimbursement rates and price-reduced 27 breakfast and lunch reimbursement rates established by the United States 28 department of agriculture.

(e) The state board of education may adopt rules and regulations asthe board deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after itspublication in the statute book.