S.B. NO. 2264

JAN 1 7 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL LUNCH REFORM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that proper nutrition is
 an important part of a student's healthy learning environment.
 As such, the removal or refusal of a student's lunch due to the
 inability to pay creates an unhealthy learning environment for
 the student.

6 The purpose of this Act is to minimize the situations where
7 a student may be denied a school meal because of the student's
8 inability to pay.

9 SECTION 2. Section 302A-404, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "§302A-404 School meals[-]; report. (a) School meals
12 shall be made available under the school meals program in every
13 school where the students are required to eat meals at school.

14 (b) No student shall be denied a meal solely for failure15 to pay:

16 (1) Within the first [twenty one] thirty days of the first
17 semester of a school year while the student's



1

S.B. NO. 2264

1		application for free or reduced lunch is being	
2		processed; or	
3	(2)	Within [seven] <u>thirty</u> days after a student's meal fund	
4		accoünt reaches a zero or negative balance.	
5	(c)	A school may not permit public identification or	
6	stigmatiz	ation of the student due to inability to pay for a	
7	school me	al, such as by requiring a wristband or hand stamp.	
8	The stude	nt also may not be required to perform chores or	
9	activitie	s that are not required of students generally, or	
10	dispose of food after it has been served to the child.		
11	[(c)	$\frac{1}{2}$ (d) The department may adopt rules or policies	
12	governing	the collection of funds for student meal accounts with	
13	a negativ	e fund balance; provided that no rule or policy shall	
14	prohibit	feeding a student as required pursuant to subsection	
15	(b).		
16	(e)	Any communication related to outstanding credit must	
17	be direct	ed to the student's parent or guardian. A student may	
18	be requir	ed to deliver a letter regarding outstanding credit	
19	that is a	ddressed to a parent or guardian if the letter is not	
20	distribut	ed to the student in a manner that stigmatizes the	
21	<u>student.</u>		



2



1	(f)	The department of education shall submit a report to
2	the legis	lature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
3	of the req	gular session of each year on the prevalence of
4	students b	peing denied a school meal solely for failure to pay
5	and any ac	ctions taken by the department of education or
6	individua	l schools to address this issue. The report shall
7	include:	
8	(1)	The number of meals that have been denied because of a
9		zero or negative balance in a student's meal fund
10		account;
11	(2)	The number of students who have been denied a meal
12		because of a zero or negative balance;
13	(3)	The reasons for the zero or negative balance and
14		subsequent meal denial;
15	(4)	Steps the department is taking to make the process of
16		paying for meals easier;
17	(5)	Procedures for notifying parents of low or negative
18		balances, including when and how they are notified;
19		and
20	(6)	The standard operating procedure for low or negative
21		balance notification and subsequent meal denial.



Page 3

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1	(g) The department of education shall use money in the			
2	special school lunch fund to provide school meals at no charge			
3	for children in kindergarten through twelfth grade who are			
4	participating in the school meals program and who would			
5	otherwise be required to pay a reduced price for meals."			
6	SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general			
7	revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$800,000 or so much			
8	thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be			
9	deposited to the credit of the special school lunch fund			
10	established pursuant to section 302A-405, Hawaii Revised			
11	Statutes.			
12	The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of			
13	education for the purposes of this Act.			
14	SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed			
15	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.			
16	SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.			
17	White INTRODUCED BY Shikele A. Kiden Rosoly & Bike Clause Michike 2020-0372 SB SMA-2.doc 4			

S.B. NO. 2264

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S.B. NO. 2264

Report Title:

Department of Education; School Meals; Free or Reduced Lunch; Students; Appropriation

Description:

Increases the number of days by which students have to apply for free or reduced lunch and to replenish the student's meal fund. Requires the department of education to report to the legislature regarding the number of students who are denied meals based on the inability to pay. Appropriates funds to the special school lunch fund.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

