

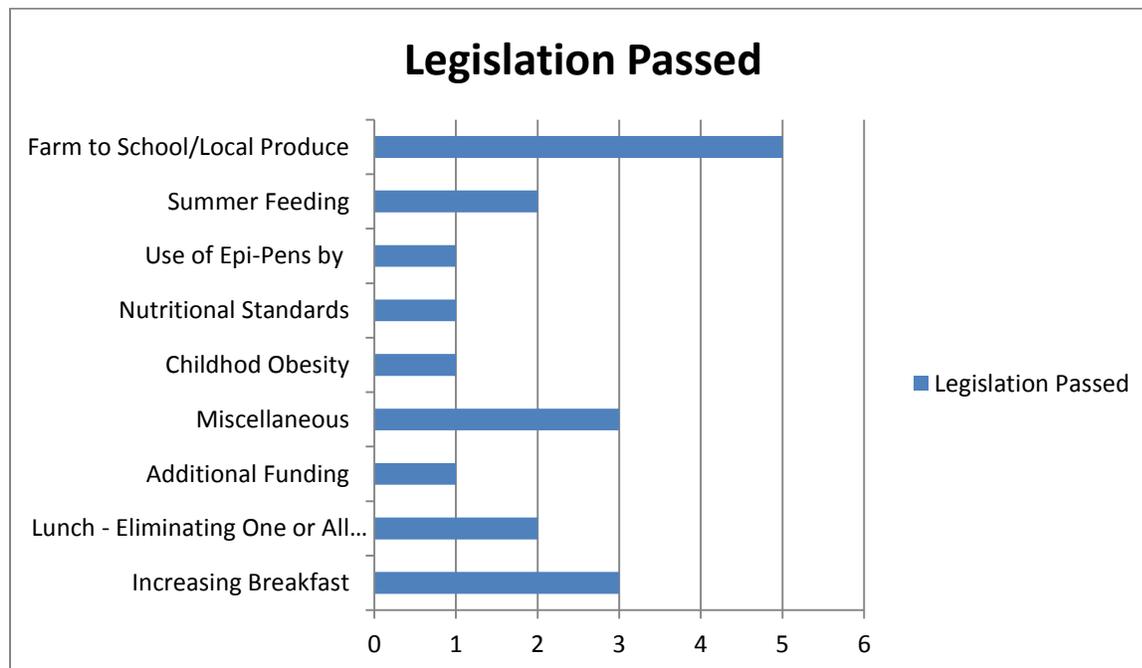


2013 State Legislative Summary: January 1 through July 1

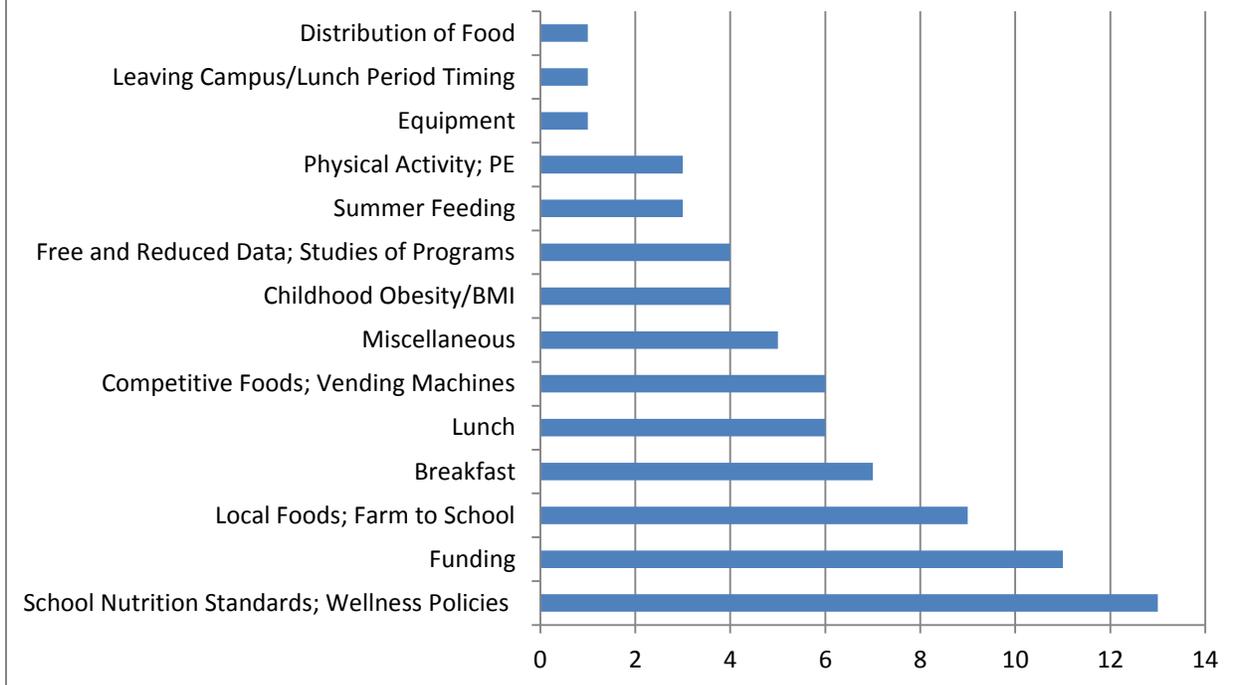
The 2013 legislative session across the fifty states was another active one with over 70 bills introduced and 19 enacted. For comparison, in 2012, 82 bills were introduced and 10 signed into law. Please note that the following summary does not include the yearly appropriations legislation unless otherwise noted. The key points for the first six months over 2013 are:

- The top issue introduced legislation was wellness policies and nutritional standards.
- Use of local produce, such as farm to schools programs or school gardens, was the number one issue enacted by states as five out nine bills were signed into law.
- Breakfast legislation was the next most likely to be enacted with three of the eight bills becoming law.
- Two states passed legislation which aims to provide free meals to students: Vermont eliminated the reduced price category with appropriate funding and West Virginia is altering funding mechanisms with the long-term goal to provide universal feeding.
- Competitive food rules saw an uptick in legislation from three in 2012 to five in 2013. Only Texas passed a bill, but was vetoed by the Governor.
- A smattering of bills asked Congress to adjust elements of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) and to improve summer feeding programs.

Looking ahead, SNA members can expect many of the bills introduced in 2013 to see new light in 2014. Due to the push by outside organizations, breakfast legislation will likely be introduced in additional states. SNA Members should also expect possible future bills addressing the coming changes to competitive foods. Finally, more states are once again looking at adjusting financial support up as economic conditions improve. These can take the form of additional cents per meals served, funds for summer feeding programs, and/or pilot programs for new initiatives.



Legislation Introduced



Summary of the States

Alabama

- No legislation introduced or passed on school nutrition policies.

Alaska

- Enacted legislation focused on promotion of local foods.
- In the Senate, a bill to provide additional funding for school meals was moved out of the appropriate committee but was not taken up on the Senate floor. It would have provided 15 cents for lunch and 35 cents for breakfast.

Arizona

- A bill setting nutritional standards was introduced in the Senate but did not make it to a committee hearing.

Arkansas

- Enacted a pilot program to expand school breakfast programs.
- A separate bill to establish a breakfast after the bell program died in committee.
- A House bill to repeal measuring of Body Mass Index in schools failed in committee.

California – In session until September 2013

- The Senate has passed and the House is considering language which would prevent school districts from mishandling funds meant for school nutrition programs.
- The Senate passed and the House is considering a bill which would provide funds for school cafeterias and central kitchens.

- The Senate held an April hearing on a bill on serving healthful foods in early childhood education programs.

Colorado

- Enacted “Breakfast after the Bell” legislation
- Enacted a bill establishing a Farm to School Task Force

Connecticut

- Enacted a bill establishing a task force on reducing childhood obesity.

Delaware

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Florida

- A Senate bill died in committee that would have prevented all students from leaving campus during lunch periods.
- A bill to limit liability for schools for distribution of extra food also died in committee.
- The Governor signed into law a bill providing an exemption for information on free and reduced to remain out of the public domain.

Georgia

- A bill regarding farm to school programs did not progress in the Senate.

Hawaii

- A bill promoting healthful school choices, including vegetarian options, died in the Senate.
- A House bill on limiting sale of sweetened beverages in all schools did not advance.
- A similar bill on providing wellness guidelines for early childhood education advanced through committees but never proceeded to a floor vote.
- Two bills on purchasing local produce and establishing school gardens did not advance in either Chamber.

Idaho

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Illinois

- The House passed language banning use of trans-fat but the Senate was not able to move the bill forward before adjournment.
- A House bill requiring studying income eligibility for free and reduced school meals was tabled.

Indiana

- A bill was introduced in the House to study necessity of federal school meals program but it never made any movement beyond the introduction.

Iowa

- A bill requiring documentation of whether schools provide breakfast was referred to the House education committee.

Kansas

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Kentucky

- Legislation addressing healthy food choices in cafeterias passed the House but did not progress in the Senate.

Louisiana

- Legislation on limiting access to certain foods and drinks in schools was stalled in the House Education Committee

Maine

- The legislature passed a bill requiring schools with 50% free or reduced offer a summer feeding program.
- The House and Senate passed legislation that would require schools to track the percentage of food items used that were locally sourced.
- The House and Senate introduced two additional bills focused on increasing use of local grown foods.

Maryland

- In the House, a bill was introduced to study the nutrition of free and reduced lunches. It was tabled after a hearing.

Massachusetts – In Session until December 31

- A bill requiring that schools list the amount of carbohydrates in meals served to diabetic students was introduced in the Senate.
- Various bills on increasing physical education and activity were introduced in both chambers.
- Legislation to modify state school breakfast program was introduced; the bill would require schools to report on food waste and criticisms from parents.
- The Joint Education Committee held a hearing on June 11 on healthy snacks in vending machines.
- Language on expanding access to healthy options in vending machines was introduced.

Michigan

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Minnesota

- A bill was introduced in both Chambers to provide funding essentially eliminating the reduced price lunch category. It did not move beyond committee.
- A second bill, sponsored by SNA Minnesota, would have added an additional two cents per lunch served across the board. This moved through committees but was reduced to only an additional half-cent per meal in omnibus legislation.
- A bill requiring all schools provide meals to students regardless of ability to pay did not make through committee.

Mississippi

- Language requiring all Mississippi schools strictly follow USDA school meals guidelines died in committee.
- The Governor signed into law language setting up a farm to school task force.
- Also dying in committee was language that would require schools to serve healthy meals.
- In both Chambers, language requiring schools to measure BMI died in committee.

- Language requiring the state pay into insurance for full-time cafeteria workers did not pass.

Missouri

- The House passed but the Senate did not language asking Congress to re-consider caloric restrictions in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.
- Legislation allowing pre-k and child care centers to apply for free and reduced price meals died in committee.

Montana

- Language to institute a farm to school program died in the Appropriations Committee.

Nebraska

- A bill to study the school breakfast programs was introduced but did not move forward.

Nevada

- The Governor signed into law a bill promoting consumption of fruits and vegetables.

New Hampshire

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

New Jersey

- A bill urging schools use the MyMealPlate was sent to the Education Committee.
- The Senate Education committee held a hearing on using produce from community gardens in schools.
- Language expanding the school breakfast program was introduced in February but did not move forward.

New Mexico

- The Governor signed a proclamation declaring February 6, 2013 New Mexico School Lunch Day.
- An appropriation of \$600,000 for delivery of commodities to schools failed in committee.
- Providing funds for the purchase of local sourced produce passed the House education committee but failed to pass in the Finance.

New York – In session until December 31

- The Senate passed language that would require guidelines for donation of extra food to schools and community centers. The language is currently in the House.
- Various bills on reducing obesity, vending machine sales, local food, and scheduling of school lunches were all referred to appropriate committees where they remain.

North Carolina

- The Governor signed into law a bill denying billing school nutrition programs for indirect costs if program is running a deficit.
- A House bill to study participation in the National School Lunch Program sits in the Rules Committee.
- A bill to increase funding for school nutrition programs was introduced.

North Dakota

- A bill to provide funding for a snack of juice or milk during the course of the school day failed to pass.

Ohio – In session until December 31

- The House Committee on Education might soon hold hearings on a bill to address expanding summer feeding programs and sites.

Oklahoma

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Oregon

- House introduced language to urge Congress to write school nutrition rules that would encourage local produce.
- The House Ways and Means Committee holds a bill on reimbursing schools and local groups that provide breakfast during summer feeding programs.

Pennsylvania – In session until December 31

- The House adopted language to study childhood obesity.

Rhode Island

- The House passed language requesting the State to review nutritional standards.
- The Senate passed language on local produce to schools.

South Carolina

- A bill to address competitive foods was introduced but did not move committee.

South Dakota

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Tennessee

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Texas

- The Governor vetoed a bill that limits the type of beverages that can be sold in schools.
- The Governor signed into law a bill that expands breakfast in the classroom participation.
- The Governor signed into law a bill expanding summer feeding sites.
- The Governor signed into law a bill that limits the number of sanctions applied to a school for selling foods of minimal nutritional value.

Utah

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Vermont

- The Governor signed into law funding to essentially eliminate the reduced price category for lunch.

Virginia

- A resolution to address childhood hunger passed the Senate.

Washington

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

West Virginia

- The Governor signed into law the Feed to Achieve Act which aims to provide free meals to all students.
- The Governor signed into law legislation allowing for and training school cafeteria workers in using epi-pens.

Wisconsin

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.

Wyoming

- No legislation introduced or passed this session.