2020 STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY:
FIRST QUARTER REPORT

This report is a summary of key school nutrition state legislation that changed status between January 1 and April 30, 2020. Annual funding bills are not included. SNA state advocacy resources are a collaborative effort intended to support grassroots efforts at the local level. We welcome your updates at advocacy@schoolnutrition.org.

Q1 STATE OVERVIEW

TREND WATCH

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, nine states have introduced legislation to combat the effects of school closures on school nutrition programs. These bills include provisions such as compensation for food service workers, program guidance, and funds to maintain school meal services.

The issue of unpaid meal debt remains a prominent trend in school nutrition legislation; 11 bills have been introduced concerning unpaid meal debt, a majority of which prohibit lunch-shaming or stigmatization.

Several bills curb the use of polystyrene food containers, plastic bags, and single-use plastic straws. While these bills are intended to impact all food service establishments, they would also apply to some school nutrition programs.

Several states have introduced legislation expanding access to paper or web-based applications to students and families that qualify for free and reduced price meals.

Other trends that have returned in 2020 are local procurement incentives, school breakfast incentives, Farm to School Programs and, eliminating the Reduced-Price co-pay.
2020 NEW STATE LAWS:

Of the 120 bills impacting school meals programs introduced in the first four months of 2020, 9 bills have been signed into law:

- Kansas:
  - SB 66 requires the director of the state budget to review and submit each request by a state agency for expenditures to cover costs due the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenses for consideration include healthcare, educational resources, commodities, and food service costs. After receiving recommendations from the legislative budget committee, expenditures may be considered as part of the coronavirus response costs for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

- Kentucky:
  - SB 177 directs the Kentucky Department of Education to seek any waivers that will allow for school districts to continue to serve reimbursable meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. All school districts are encouraged to maximize opportunities that may be granted through any waivers regarding food service and the COVID-19 public health emergency to address food insecurity issues of students in the districts.

- New Mexico:
  - SM 10 asks the New Mexico Public Education Department to create a working group to study food insecurity, food waste, academic benefits of proper nutrition and the repackaging of school meals for donations to students.
  - HB 10 would provide funding to each school district and charter school that administers a school breakfast or school lunch program to cover the cost of eliminating reduced price copayments. Funding will be based on a per-meal basis at the difference between the federal free meal rate and the reduced price copayment rate.

- Utah
  - HB 16 amends specific provisions regarding the use of school meal revenue and sets reporting requirements for the school breakfast program. Specifically, this bill requires an annual review of participation in the school breakfast program.
  - HB 222 creates the Smart Start Breakfast Program to expand access to school breakfast in public schools. This new law creates an alternative breakfast service model and requires the state board of education to specify waivers for non-participation.

- Virginia
  - HB 698 allows schools to distribute excess food to low-income students. The Virginia School Board shall establish the method of distribution.
  - HB 1426 requires each school board to require all public elementary and secondary schools in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast program. All schools must also make a meal available to any student that requests one regardless of such student's family income or whether such student has the money to pay for the meal or owes money for meals previously provided.

- Washington:
  - HB 2660 would increase the availability of school meals provided to public school students at no student cost. In 2020-2021, each school with a school lunch program and school breakfast program must make school meals available to all students at no charge if the school or district has an identified students percentage of at least 40% or 70% of the students of the school or school district qualify for free or reduced price meals.
SUMMARY AND STATUS OF LEGISLATION

ALABAMA

None as of April 30, 2020.

ARIZONA

HB 2453 would prescribe measures regarding sewage disposal, garbage and trash collection, storage and disposal, water supply and food preparation of all public schools and other facilities. The rules would establish standards for sanitary conditions and provide for the inspection of schools and facilities for abatement as public nuisances of any premises that do not comply with the minimum requirements.
Referred to Senate Health and Human Services Committee. 3/11/2020

SB 1587 prohibits school personnel from taking any disciplinary actions against a pupil that is unable to pay school meal fees, including the removal or delay of a meal that meets nutrition standards.
Referred to House Rules Committee. 3/10/2020

ARKANSAS

None as of April 30, 2020.

CALIFORNIA

AB 1995 would require schools to provide pupils who are eligible to receive a reduced priced meal, that meal free of charge. The bill would authorize a school district or county office of education to use funds made available through any federal, to the extent allowed, or state program relating to the provision of meals to pupils, as provided.
Referred to the Assembly Committee on Education 3/16/2020

AB 2095 increases the percentage of expendable funds allowed towards nutrition education programs and decreases the percentage towards state administrative expenses.
Re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Local Government. 3/16/20

AB 2211 requires school districts to consider the first 15 minutes of class that is used for a school breakfast program to be regarded as instructional time and part of daily attendance.
Referred to the Assembly Committee on Education. 3/16/20

ACR 178 proclaims March 2, 2020, to March 6, 2020, as School Breakfast Week.
Referred to Senate Committee on Rules. 3/11/2020

HR 89 designates March 18th as California Agriculture Day, to celebrate the vital role farmers and agriculture services play in keeping California nourished and their role in providing nutritious and healthy foods for school meal programs.
Referred to Assembly Committee on Rules. 3/12/2020

AB 2887 allows school districts or county offices of education to use funds through any federal or state program to provide meals to a pupil, including the federal School Breakfast Program, the federal National School Lunch Program, the federal Summer Food Service Program, the federal Seamless Summer Option or the state meal
program.  
*Referred to Assembly Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review. 3/17/2020*

**COLORADO**

None as of April 30, 2020.

**CONNECTICUT**

**SB 99** requires school districts to develop a plan for **discontinuing the use** of trays made from expanded polystyrene.  
*Filed with the Senate Legislative Commissioners’ Office. 3/6/2020*

**SB 99** prohibits any **disciplinary actions** in public schools against a student for **unpaid meal charges** and would allow for any public or private entity to donate to outstanding meal debt.  
*Referred to Office of Legislative Research and Office of Fiscal Analysis. 03/16/2020*

**SB 288** establishes a **task force** to examine the **impact of USDA’s Final Rule** concerning simplifying meal service and monitoring requirements in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).  
*Filed with the Senate Legislative Commissioners’ Office. 3/11/2020*

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

None as of April 30, 2020.

**FLORIDA**

**HB 953** requires charter schools to **provide school lunch services** under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). These services must be consistent with the needs of the charter school and must be provided through the sponsor, not the school district. Any funds due to the charter school under the NSLP must be paid to the charter school.  
*Died. 3/14/2020*

**SB 1526** creates a food donation program and sets requirements for efforts in **reducing food waste**. The bill removes the option for low income schools to opt out of universal breakfast and provides additional funding for schools utilizing an **alternative breakfast model**. This bill also provides additional reimbursement for the use of local foods.  
*Died. 3/14/2020*

**GEORGIA**

**SB 387** amends the state-wide school lunch program to include **instruction on nutrition**, hygiene, etiquette and social graces for students and school nutrition personnel.  
*Passed the Senate; referred to House. 3/13/2020*

**HR 1294** a resolution that recognizes and commends the Giving Kitchen for receiving the 2019 James Beard Humanitarian of the Year Award and for its work to **support and empower school foodservice workers** in
SB 2477 would require all public schools to provide students with a vegetarian option with each school meal.
Referred to Senate Committee on Education. 1/23/2020

SB 2782 requires the Hawaii Department of Education to establish a plant-based food and beverage program. This program would include funding for those public schools that participate and serve meals that include plant-based food options or plant-based milk.
Referred to House Committee on Finance. 3/9/2020

SB 2264 would increase the number of days in which students have to apply for free or reduced lunch and to replenish the student’s meal fund. This bill would also require the Department of Education to report the number of students that are denied meals based on his or her inability to pay.
Referred to House Committee on Finance. 3/11/2020

HB 2740 would establish long-term targets to address food waste and to improve sustainable meals in Hawaii’s public schools. This act would also encourage increasing the availability of plant-based alternatives in school meals to improve student health.
Referred to Senate Committee on Education. 3/16/2020

SCR 114 urges the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) to offer vegetarian lunch meals in all public schools at least once a week.
Referred to Senate Committee on Education. 3/16/2020

HCR 193 or HR 174 instructs the DOE to work towards offering plant-based proteins in at least 50% of lunch meals served in public schools.
Referred to the House Committee on Finance. 3/16/2020

SCR 214 or SR 181 amends the Hawaii State Planning Act to encourage the purchase and use of Hawaiian grown foods and products by the Hawaii Department of Education’s Food Service Branch and School Meals Programs.
Referred to the Senate Committee on Education. 3/10/2020

SR 181 urges the Hawaii State Department of Education Food Services Branch to adopt an addendum that will allow for the procurement of foods and services from food hubs. The food that is procured goes into serving nutritionally balanced and affordable meals statewide in meal programs that comply with federal and state child nutrition standards.
Referred to the Senate Committee on Education. 3/10/2020

SB 3065 amends the School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act to make a technical change concerning school meal applications.
Referred to Senate Committee on Assignments. 2/5/2020
HB 4700 amends the applications for participation in the school breakfast program, lunch program, and summer food service program.  
*Referred to House Rules Committee. 2/18/2020*

SB 3817 amends the Illinois school code to require the School Board of Education to develop and implement a School Unused Food Program that allows public schools to provide food that is unused by the school to needy children who are also students.  
*Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. 3/12/2020*

SB 3819 amends the School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act to require every public school to have a free breakfast program and repeals provisions concerning a breakfast incentive program and applications.  
*Assigned to the Senate Education Committee. 3/12/2020*

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**INDIANA**

HB 1125 would allow community use of school kitchens. This bill allows school cities, school towns and joint districts to open school kitchens and lunchrooms for community use to improve access to knowledge about food preparation, support local entrepreneurship and to process and store fresh food during after school hours.  
*Referred to House Committee on Education. 1/8/2020*

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**IOWA**

HF 2116 would establish a reduced-fee lunch assistance fund to provide money to educational facilities to further reduce the cost of reduced priced co-pay lunches for eligible children.  
*Referred to the House Committee on Education. 1/23/2020*

HSB 656 provides procedures to school districts to offset unpaid meal debt and also defines delinquency debt and those practices that are considered to be reasonable efforts for collection.  
*Report Issued by House Committee on State Government. 2/8/2020*

HF 2370 requires the director of Iowa’s Department of Education to establish a low-income student and poverty weighting workgroup.  
*Referred to the House Committee on Education. 2/19/2020*

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**KANSAS**

SB 66 requires the director of the state budget to review and submit each request by a state agency for expenditures to cover costs due the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenses for consideration include healthcare, educational resources, commodities and food service costs. After receiving recommendations from the legislative budget committee, expenditures may be considered as part of the coronavirus response costs for the fiscal year 2020-2021.  
*Signed into law by Governor. 4/27/20*

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**KENTUCKY**

HB 50 sets requirements for criteria to include when conducting a management audit and specifies follow up required if deficiencies are found, as well as other provisions.  
*Referred to House Education Committee. 1/7/2020*
SR 203 recognizes the importance of access to safe, affordable, culturally appropriate and nutritious food and its beneficial impacts on the health of Kentuckians and Kentucky's agricultural economy. Adopted by voice vote in Senate. 4/15/2020

SR 251 declares April 22nd as Environmental Education Day, recognizing that providing nutrition education and healthy school meals helps to support brain power with the vitamins and nutrients that students need to focus and have the energy to learn. Adopted in the Senate. 3/17/2020

House Floor Amendment 1 of HB 461 allows the Kentucky Department of Education to seek waivers from any federal agencies that will allow for school districts to serve and be reimbursed for providing meals. Specifically, this amendment allows for service in non-congregate settings and reduces the mandatory wait times between serving meals. This amendment also encourages all schools to maximize opportunities during this public health emergency to address food insecurity issues among students. Amendment included. 3/12/2020

SB 177 directs the Kentucky Department of Education to seek any waivers that will allow for school districts to continue to serve reimbursable meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. Kentucky is seeking waivers that include allowing service in non-congregate settings and reducing the mandatory wait times between serving meals, during any time that a district is closed to students in relation to the COVID-19 public health emergency. All school districts are encouraged to maximize opportunities that may be granted through any waivers regarding food service and the COVID-19 public health emergency to address food insecurity issues of students in the districts. Signed into law by Governor. 3/24/2020

LOUISIANA

SCR 23 requires the closure of all schools due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, suspends specific educational protocols and necessitates the monitoring of the effects that closures will have on a student’s overall health and academic performance. Rules suspended in the Senate. 3/16/20

MAINE

SP 789 or LD 2167 requires operators to continue to provide nutrition services to students during school closures in response to the threat posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic. This bill also implements provisions to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all public school students. Passed by Senate; to be enacted. 3/17/2020

SP 777 specifies the importance of healthy school meals that support brain power with vitamins and nutrients needed for focus and energy, promote healthy eating habits outside of the classroom and decrease childhood obesity rates. Adopted by the House. 3/17/2020

MARYLAND

HB 112 prevents the banning or regulating the sale of coffee in conjunction with a career exploration and development activity in any public high school in Baltimore County public high schools. This act shall repeal the
exception that prohibited the sale of coffee and shall take effect on July 1, 2020.
*Referred to Senate Committee on Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs. 3/15/2020*

**HB 1135** requires the State Department of Education to **submit to USDA** certain **waivers** for the federal **Summer Food Service Program**.
*Withdrawn from House Ways and Means Committee. 3/5/2020*

**HB 1145** establishes the **Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund** as a unique non-lapsing fund. A program that requires the Comptroller to distribute certain sales and use tax revenues from snack foods.
*Referred to House Ways and Means Committee. 2/10/2020*

**HB 1173** requires each county board of education to establish a **meal charge policy** to address payment for meals, unpaid meal debt, the prohibition of stigmatizing action and other issues.
*Referred to House Ways and Means Committee. 2/11/2020*

**HB 1152** requires all public schools to notify a student’s parent or guardian if there is a low balance in the student’s meal account before the student accrues unpaid meal debt. This bill also **prohibits any disciplinary or stigmatizing actions** against any student with **unpaid meal charges**.
*Referred to Senate Committee on Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs. 3/16/2020*

**SB 828** or **HB 1135** requires the Maryland Department of Education to **create regulatory waivers** for the **Summer Food Service Program**.
*Referred to House Ways and Means Committee. 3/16/2020*

**SB 760** establishes a **meal charge policy** for addressing payment for meals, **unpaid meal debt**, the prohibition of stigmatizing actions and other issues related to the school meal programs and management of payments for school meals. This bill requires a school to notify a student’s parent or legal guardian about the status of individual school meal accounts.
*Passed the Senate. 3/17/2020*

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**HD 4975** establishes a worker relief funding during COVID-19 for all **food service** and hospitality workers, including those who work within **school districts**.
*Referred to the House Committee on Joint Rules. 4/13/2020*

**MICHIGAN**

None as of April 30, 2020

**MINNESOTA**

**HF 3186** would **prohibit** any school personnel from **denying** a **school lunch** to any child participating in the school lunch program whether or not that student has an **outstanding balance** in the student’s meal account.
*Referred to House Committee on Education. 3/17/2020*

**HF 4415** or **SF 4369** provides **compensation** for **hourly food service employees** for any workdays that are subsequently canceled due to the **COVID-19 outbreak** during the 2019-2020 school year.
*Referred to the House Education Finance Division. 4/14/2020*
SF 4401 or HF 4075 modifies school meal policies and aid, including the definition of school meals and a la carte items, service procedures and reimbursement requirements. This bill also requires all public schools that participate in school meal programs to create and organize an online website where the meal is served and a clear and concise student meal charge policy.

*Referred to Senate Committee on E-12 Finance and Policy. 3/16/2020*

**SF 4373 prohibits disposable polystyrene** food service containers, plastic beverage stirrers at state and local government facilities and functions.

*Referred to Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection Finance and Policy. 3/16/2020*

**HF 4542** adjusts current education finance and **increases funding** to school lunch and breakfast aid under Minnesota statutes.

*Referred to House Education Finance Division 4/14/2020*

**HF 4538** provides $100,000 in the first year and $100,000 the second year to expand staffing and market opportunities for farm-to-school sales.

*Referred to House Agriculture and Food Finance and Policy Division. 4/14/2020*

**MISSOURI**

**HB 1931** requires any public or charter school to **offer breakfast after the bell program** if 70% or more students are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

*Introduced in the House. 1/8/2020*

**HB 1818** sets guidelines for Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and the calculation for free and reduced price meal eligibility.

*Referred to Senate Education Committee. 4/7/2020*

**HR 5497** requires that school districts take any necessary steps to protect the health and welfare of students without the fear of funding restrictions or punishments due to shortfalls or an inability to meet minimum hour requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Introduced in the House. 3/18/2020*

**Amendment 2014HO2.27H or HB 2014** provides $10 million in grant money to not-for-profit organizations that provide meals to elementary and secondary students that qualify for free and reduced price lunch and whose schools have closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

*Amendment included. 4/8/2020*

**MONTANA**

None as of April 30, 2020.

**NEBRASKA**

**LB 1039** would establish the Hunger-Free Schools Act. This act would require public schools to offer all eligible students’ breakfast and lunches at no cost through the breakfast program or school lunch program. This act would also require each school to submit information regarding the number of breakfasts and lunches served to eligible students.

*Referred to the Education Committee. 2/11/2020*
LR 337 creates an interim study to examine all Nebraskan grown food products to see if these commodities can be used in school meals and snacks.  
Referred to Executive Board. 3/9/2020

NEVADA

None as of April 30, 2020.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

HB 709 creates a relative formula for determining adequate education funding, including the establishment of additional aid for free and reduced lunches.  
Reintroduced. 1/8/2020

HB 1681 requires schools to make free or reduced-cost lunch available to children who meet federal eligibility guidelines and increases reimbursements to schools that offer lunch at no cost to eligible students.  
Referred to the House Committee on Finance. 2/13/2020

HB 1703 creates a research committee on recycling and solid waste. This food waste working group must include a representative for the department of education school lunch program.  
Ought to Pass House Committee with Amendment. 3/11/2020

NEW JERSEY

A 1614 would establish the School Breakfast Kiosk pilot program. Identical to A 3153.  
Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 1/14/2020

A 1631 requires school districts to take specific actions to increase participation in the school meal program. This bill also prohibits shaming students with unpaid meal debt and prohibits specific actions when collecting student debt. Identical to S 4353.  
Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 2/13/2020

A 1630 clarifies that school districts are not required to restrict access to school meals if a student has unpaid meal debt. Identical to S 599.  
Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/14/2020

A 1632 would require each school district to establish a "School Meal Fund" to assist students with school meal bill in arrears. Identical to S 704.  
Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 2/24/2020

A 1375 requires the New Jersey Department of Agriculture to increase participation in school meal programs through marketing campaigns.  
Referred to Assembly Agriculture Committee. 1/14/2020

A 1138 would require the state to pay the difference between federal allocation and total cost of reduced-price breakfast or lunch. This bill appropriates $4.5 million to cover the expenses.  
Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 1/14/2020
A 1104 is the New Jersey "Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act," which requires certain school meal information to be provided to students' parents. It also establishes protocols for identifying eligible students for meal programs and prohibits stigmatizing students with a bill in arrears.  
Passed Senate. 3/19/2020

A 1228 establishes a 'Breakfast After the Bell' incentive fund.  
Referred to Assembly Women and Children Committee. 1/14/2020

S 680 requires all public school districts to provide a lunch period of at least 20 seated minutes.  
Referred to Senate Education Committee. 1/14/2020

S 571 provides anti-stigmatization protections to public school students whose school breakfast or school lunch bill is in arrears and requires a school district to communicate about arrearages to the parent or guardian and not to the student.  
Referred to Senate Education Committee. 1/14/2020

A 2322 or S 584 expands the school breakfast program to all schools that have 5% or more of students eligible for free or reduced price meals.  
Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 2/3/2020

S 1615 or A 1631 requires school districts take certain actions to increase participation in free or reduced priced meal programs and prohibits shaming students with unpaid meal debt.  
Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/13/2020

S 1299 requires all contracts for professional services to be awarded by the State, county, municipal and school district through the competitive contracting process.  
Referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee. 2/10/2020

S 1584 promotes healthy choices in school cafeterias, known as "The Smarter Lunchroom Act."  
Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/13/2020

AR 105 urges the U.S. Congress and President Trump to reauthorize the "Child Nutrition Act of 1966."  
Referred to Assembly Agriculture Committee. 2/20/2020

AJR 108 designates the fourth week in April of each year as "Every Kid Healthy Week."  
Referred to Assembly Women and Children Committee. 2/20/2020

A 3840 or S 2281 requires school districts to provide school meals or vouchers to students that are eligible for free or reduced-price meals during school closures.  
Approved by Senate. 3/20/2020

A 3813 or S 2292 permits the use of virtual remote instruction to meet minimum 180-day school year requirement to meet individual eligibility for federal reimbursements.  
Approved by Senate. 3/19/2020

A 3904 permits use of virtual or remote instruction to meet minimum 180-day school year requirement and requires the New Jersey Department of Health to monitor effects on school nutrition programs due to COVID-19.  
Approved by the Assembly. 4/14/2020
**NEW MEXICO**

**A 3282** requires public schools to comply with more stringent school lunch and breakfast **nutrition standards** adopted by USDA in 2012.

*Referred to Assembly Women and Children Committee. 2/25/2020*

**S 2337** permits the use of virtual or remote instruction and requires the Superintendent and Board of Education to measure the **impact of virtual or remote instruction** on the **school lunch and school breakfast programs**.

*Substituted by **A 3904**, 4/13/2020*

**SB 11** establishes that the last **thirty minutes** of the **lunch** recess period established by each school district and charter school shall be used for the sole purpose of meal consumption.

*Introduced. 1/21/2020*

**SB 10** requires all schools to provide a **free**, printed **meal application** in every school enrollment packet, or an electronic meal application.

*Introduced. 1/21/2020*

**SM 10** asks the New Mexico Public Education Department to create a **working group to study food insecurity**, food waste, academic benefits of proper nutrition and the repackaging of school meals for donations to students.

*Signed into law by Governor. 2/19/2020*

**HB 10** would provide funding to each school district and charter school that administers a school breakfast or school lunch program to cover the cost of **eliminating reduced price copayments**. Funding will be based on a per-meal basis at the difference between the federal free meal rate and the reduced price copayment rate.

*Signed into law by Governor. 2/20/2020*

**SB 252** appropriates $100,000 to **expand school food programs** to provide meals with local ingredients to low-income families during non-school hours from the general fund to the public education department for expenditure in the fiscal year 2021.

*Introduced. 2/4/2020*

**NEW YORK**

**S 7847** permits all school food authorities to attribute funds spent on **purchases of food products** from New York state **farmers, growers, producers** or processors made for its School Breakfast Program to the thirty percent of costs for school lunch service programs.

*Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/26/2020*

**NORTH CAROLINA**

None as of April 30, 2020.

**NORTH DAKOTA**

None as of April 30, 2020.

**OHIO**
OKLAHOMA

HB 2812 creates the Task Force on Student Nutrition. This task force would provide an analysis of the requirements for optimal nutrition for school-aged children and the effects of undernutrition and food insecurity on children’s school performance.

Referred to House Committee on Education. 2/4/2020

HB 2931 prohibits the refusal of school lunch to a student, including the prohibiting shaming of student and public communication with a student regarding lunch account balance.

Referred to House Committee on Education. 2/4/2020

SB 1364, Senate Floor Amendment FS FA1 instructs the Oklahoma State Board of Education to sponsor the School Lunch Workshop Revolving Fund, which would provide workshops for personnel and participants in the school lunch program.

Referred by Senate for engrossment. 3/11/2020

OREGON

SB 1520 would require school districts to make breakfast available at no charge to all eligible students. For each breakfast that a school district provides free of charge to a student who is eligible for a reduced price lunch, the department shall provide reimbursement to the school district for the actual amount that a student would have been required to pay for a reduced price meal.

Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee. 2/6/2020

PENNSYLVANIA

None as of April 30, 2020.

RHODE ISLAND

H 7313 requires schools to ensure that a pupil whose parent or guardian has unpaid school meal fees is not denied a meal of the pupil’s choice because the pupil’s parent or guardian has unpaid meal fees and ensure that the pupil is not shamed or treated differently from other students.

Referred to House Finance Committee. 1/24/2020

S 2210 prohibits the use of state funds to purchase single-serving bottled water or single-use plastic bags or expanded polystyrene.

Referred to Senate Finance Committee. 2/4/2020

H 7507 requires schools to comply with recycling and composting laws. This bill also requires the use of share tables at all schools and promotes the donation of unspoiled nonperishable food.

Referred to House Committee on Health, Education and Welfare. 3/11/2020

S 2507 requires free lunches to be provided for all elementary and secondary students attending public schools to the extent that state and federal funds are available.

Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/25/2020
S 2382 requires all public schools to comply with recycling and composting laws and promotes the donation of unspoiled nonperishable food. This bill also implements the use of share tables in all public schools. 
Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/13/2020

SOUTH CAROLINA

SH 4765 states that no public schools may use debt collection agencies to collect or attempt to collect outstanding debts on student school lunch or breakfast accounts. 
Referred to the Senate Committee on Education. 2/27/2020

HB 3328 requires that schools offer a federally reimbursable meal to a student who is unable to pay or has previously incurred debt for previous meals. 
Referred to the House Committee on Education. 2/27/2020

TENNESSEE

HB 1589 prohibits schools from publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for a meal or has accumulated unpaid meal charges. This bill also directs all communication about a student’s meal debt to the parents or guardians. In addition, a school shall not require payment for fees or costs related to collection agencies. 
Referred to the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee. 3/17/2020

SB 2906 creates provisions to ensure students are not stigmatized due to unpaid meal debt, including prohibiting the disposal of a meal after it has been served due to a student’s inability to pay for a meal or because of money owed for previous meals. 
Deferred in Senate Education Committee. 3/16/2020

TEXAS

None as of April 30, 2020.

UTAH

HB 16 amends specific provisions regarding the use of school meal revenue and sets reporting requirements for the school breakfast program. Specifically, this bill requires an annual review of participation in the school breakfast program. 
Signed into law by Governor. 3/24/2020

HB 222 creates the Smart Start Breakfast Program to expand access to school breakfast in public schools. This new law creates an alternative breakfast service model and requires the state board of education to specify waivers for non-participation. 
Signed into law by Governor. 3/24/2020

HB 222, Senate Committee Amendment 1 states that in the 2022-23 school year, a public school with 50% or more of students qualifying for free or reduced-price meals shall use an alternative breakfast service model. 
Signed into law by Governor. 3/24/2020

HCR 301 is a concurrent resolution to honor healthcare and food service workers that are maintaining services during the COVID-19 pandemic. 
Returned to Clerk of the House. 4/20/2020
VERMONT

S 223 requires all public schools to make available school breakfast and lunch to all students at no charge. The cost of school meals that are not reimbursed through federal funds or other resources would be borne by school districts, and therefore the education fund.

Referred to Senate Committee on Education. 1/7/2020

S 273 sets a goal that by the year 2022, at least 20% of all foods purchased for Vermont school meals shall be locally produced foods and provides incentive and reporting requirements for local procurement.

Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations. 3/12/2020

VIRGINIA

HB 698 allows schools to distribute excess food to low-income students. The Virginia School Board shall establish the method of distribution.

Signed into law by Governor. 3/31/2020

SB 854 creates the Virginia Urban Agriculture Advisory Council as an advisory council in the legislative branch of the state government to encourage urban agriculture and contribute to building a local food economy.

Rereferred to the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations. 2/6/2020

HB 1426 requires each school board to require all public elementary and secondary schools in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast program. All schools must also make a meal available to any student that requests one regardless of such student's family income or whether such student has the money to pay for the meal or owes money for meals previously provided.

Signed into law by Governor. 4/6/2020

WASHINGTON

HB 2298 requires schools to provide all families of public-school students with information about free and reduced price meals available to students when school is out of session.

Referred to House Education Committee. 1/13/2020

HB 2246 would require the Washington Department of Agriculture to develop a food waste diversion plan by October 1, 2020. This plan includes support for educational and programmatic efforts in K-12 schools.

Referred to House Rules Committee. 2/19/2020

HB 2660 would create a plan to increase participation in the Community Eligibility Provision by identifying and recruiting those schools that are eligible. In addition, this bill would increase the availability of school meals provided to students at no cost to the student.

Referred to House Rules Committee. 2/17/2020

HB 2660 would increase the availability of school meals provided to public school students at no student cost. In 2020-2021, each school with a school lunch program and school breakfast program must make school meals available to all students at no charge if the school or district has an identified students percentage of at least 40% or 70% of the students of the school or school district qualify for free or reduced price meals.

Signed into law by Governor. 4/2/2020
WEST VIRGINIA (1ST SESSION)

HB 4538 establishes terms and class titles for service and cafeteria personnel and pay grades of certain school cafeteria personnel; specifically, this bill establishes definitions for Cafeteria Manager, Clerk, Cook and Crew Leader.
Referred to House Education Committee. 1/24/2020

WISCONSIN

AB 5 or SB 5 requires that preference must be given to those schools with a high percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price meals when awarding grants for the Farm to School Program.
Failed to pass Senate. 4/16/2020

AR 20 increases the number of milk options served in schools through the National School Lunch Program.
Failed to pass Senate. 4/1/2020

WYOMING

SF 54 would establish surplus food programs that provide surplus food at no cost to students for a snack or breakfast, lunch or dinner meal for students who are unable to purchase a meal. Surplus food provided under a school program may include unserved food and may be donated by a nonprofit entity.
Referred to House Education Committee. 3/10/2020