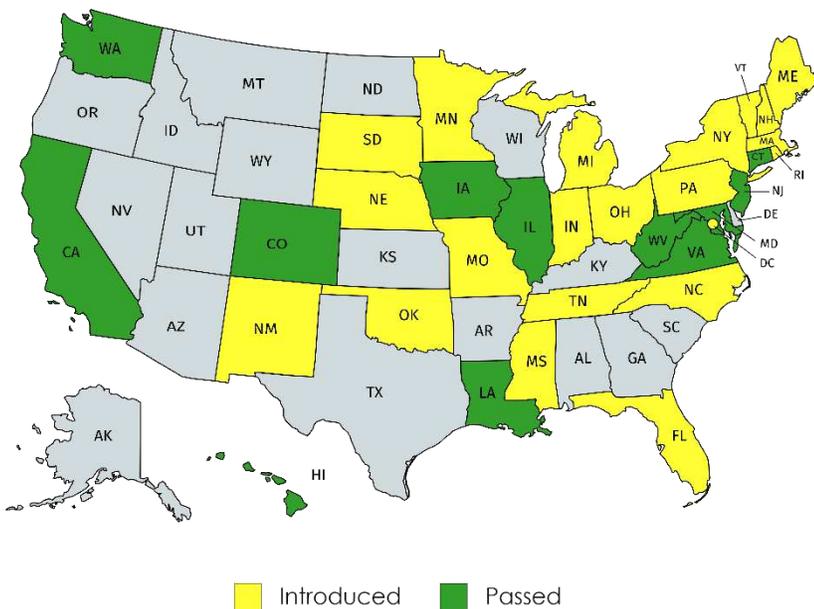




2018 STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY: YEAR-END REPORT

This report is a summary of key school nutrition state legislation that changed status between January 1 and December 31, 2018. 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.

2018 STATE OVERVIEW



The map on the left provides an overview of the states that introduced or passed school nutrition legislation in 2018. Thirty-two states had school meals bills introduced, and in twelve of them one or more bills were signed into law.

2018 TRENDS

Since January 2018, twenty-one school nutrition bills have been signed into law:

<i>California</i>	
AB 1871	Requires charter schools that use classroom-based instruction, beginning in the 2019-20 school year, to provide each needy pupil with one nutritionally adequate free or reduced price meal during each school day.
AB 1974	Provides that a public school student can never owe or be billed for debt owed to a school or school district. Prohibits schools or districts from taking negative actions against a student or former student based on unpaid meal debt. Requires educational entities to provide a receipt to parents/guardians for meal debt incurred by students. Prohibits debt collection agencies contracted by educational entities from reporting debt owed by a parent/guardian to a credit reporting agency.
AB 2271	Requires the State Department of Education to provide a matching state grant of up to \$100,000 to a school food authority participating in the National School Lunch Program that applies for and is awarded a federal Equipment Assistance Grant for School Food Authorities. Authorizes a school

	food authority to use the federal and state grants for up to five individual school sites or to combine the grants for one purpose.
AB 3043	Allows schools to use their cafeteria funds to offer Universal Breakfast as well as purchase food trucks to provide additional points of service. Increases the School Breakfast Program and Summer Food Service Program Start-up and Expansion Grants from \$15,000 to \$30,000 per school site.
<i>Colorado</i>	
SB 13	Expands state support for reduce price school meal co-pays from students in grades K-5 to students in grades K-8.
<i>Connecticut</i>	
HB 5452	Requires that each local and regional board of education shall implement a plan on or after October 1, 2019, based on previously developed guidelines for the management of students with life-threatening food allergies or glycogen storage disease enrolled in school. Requiring that the plan is available through the board's website and include the plans in any programs relating to school climate or wellness.
<i>Hawaii</i>	
HB 2025	Authorizes the Department of Education to issue grants to establish a composting grant pilot project in Department of Education schools. Authorizes a composting grant pilot project working group. Requires a report to the Legislature and appropriates funds.
<i>Illinois</i>	
SB 2428	Creates the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act. Provides that every school in the state shall provide a federally reimbursable lunch to a student of that school who requests the lunch, regardless of whether the student can pay for the lunch or has unpaid meal debt. Provides that if a student owes money for 5 or more lunches, a school shall reach out to the parent or guardian of the student to attempt collection of the unpaid meal debt and to request that the parent or guardian enroll the student in a free or reduced price lunch program. Provides that a school may not publicly identify or stigmatize a student with unpaid meal debt. Effective immediately.
<i>Iowa</i>	
HF 2467	Requires school districts to establish an unpaid meal debt policy. The bill also requires school nutrition programs to direct communications about school meals debt to parents or guardians, encourages providing a reimbursable meal regardless of ability to pay, and prohibits activities that would identify or stigmatize a student for unpaid meals, including discarding a meal served to a student, marking a student with a stamp, requiring students to perform chores, or denying participation in activities.
<i>Louisiana</i>	
HB 616	Repeals state nutritional requirements for foods and beverages sold on public school campuses during the school day.
<i>Maryland</i>	
HB 315	Provides state funding to cover the student share of the cost for reduced price meals served under the School Breakfast Program (SBP) by 2022 and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) by 2023.
SB 818	Authorizes certain schools to remain eligible to participate in the Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom Breakfast Program under certain circumstances, requires the Governor to include an appropriation of \$7,550,000 for the Program in the annual budget bill and defines "secondary schools" to include middle schools and high schools.

<i>New Jersey</i>	
S 1894	Requires certain public schools in which 70 percent or more of the students are free or reduced price eligible to establish a “breakfast after the bell” program. Under current law, a school with 20 percent or more of those eligible students must have a school breakfast program. Provides that, within six months of the bill’s effective date, each school district must submit a plan to the Department of Agriculture for the establishment of a “breakfast after the bell” program for all grades at each school that is subject to the provisions of the bill. Provides for the issuance of waivers to provisions of the bill.
S 1895	Requires every school district in which there is at least one school that qualifies for the Community Eligibility Provision, but is not implementing it, to report the reasons for nonparticipation in writing to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Education.
S 1896	Requires school district to report at least biannually to Department of Agriculture number of students who are denied school breakfast or school lunch.
S 1897	Expands summer meal program to all school districts with 50 percent or more of students eligible for free or reduced price meals.
<i>Virginia</i>	
HB 50	Requires each local school board to adopt policies that prohibit school board employees from requiring a student who cannot pay for a meal at school or who owes unpaid meal debt to do chores or other work to pay for such meals or wear a wristband or hand stamp. It also requires school board employees to direct any communication relating to a school meal debt to the student's parent, which may be made by a letter addressed to the parent to be sent home with the student.
<i>Washington</i>	
HB 1508	Acknowledges that school food programs are associated with improvements for students’ absenteeism, test results and graduation rates. Furthermore, it requires “high-needs” schools to offer breakfast after the bell to each student. Finally, the bill also increases support for farm to school programs.
HB 2610	Requires schools to distribute and collect from each household of students an application for free and reduced price meals. It also prohibits school personnel from taking actions that would publicly identify or stigmatize a student who cannot pay for a school meal or who carries unpaid meal debt. It also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop best practices for local meal charge policies and develop and implement a plan to increase the number of schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision.
<i>West Virginia</i>	
HB 4478	Authorizes public schools to create a Shared Table Program to allow for distribution of excess school food to students and others who are food insecure.
SB 267	Increases compensation for certain public employees, increases the annual salaries of members of the West Virginia State Police, increases the minimum salaries payable to public school teachers and professional personnel during the contract year and increases the minimum monthly pay for public school service personnel.

Trend Summary: Unpaid Meal Debt, School Breakfast, and Eliminating Reduce Price Co-Pay

In 2018, 5 states passed laws to regulate how schools address lack of payment and debt related to school meals, and an additional 19 states had one or more bills on the subject introduced. Since 2017 a total of nine states have enacted such laws. At a minimum these bills prohibit publicly identifying or shaming a student for being unable to pay for a meal or for having accrued meal debt; some prohibit serving an alternate meal or require that a meal be served to any student that requests one.

SUMMARY AND STATUS OF LEGISLATION

CALIFORNIA

[AB 1871](#) requires **charter schools** that use classroom-based instruction, beginning in the 2019-20 school year, to provide each needy pupil with one nutritionally adequate free or reduced price meal during each school day.
Signed into law by the Governor 9/18/2018

[AB 1974](#) provides that a public school student can never owe or be billed for debt owed to a school or school district. Prohibits schools or districts from taking negative actions against a student or former student based on **unpaid meal debt**. Requires educational entities to provide a receipt to parents/guardians for meal debt incurred by students. Prohibits debt collection agencies contracted by educational entities from reporting debt owed by a parent/guardian to a credit reporting agency.
Signed into law by the Governor 9/20/2018

[AB 2271](#) requires the State Department of Education to provide a matching **state grant** of up to \$100,000 to a school food authority participating in the National School Lunch Program that applies for and is awarded a federal Equipment Assistance Grant for School Food Authorities. Authorizes a school food authority to use the federal and state grants for up to five individual school sites or to combine the grants for one purpose.
Signed into law by the Governor 9/23/2018

[AB 2360](#) requires the State Department of Education to collaborate with the Department of Food and Agriculture and its Office of Farm to Fork to develop and promote best practices for school districts to create **partnerships with food banks** that increase student access to fresh produce and healthy foods.
Vetoed by the Governor 9/29/2018

[AB 3043](#) allows schools to use their cafeteria funds to offer **Universal Breakfast** as well as purchase food trucks to provide additional points of service. Increases the **School Breakfast Program** and **Summer Food Service Program** Start-up and Expansion Grants from \$15,000 to \$30,000 per school site.
Signed into law by the Governor 9/23/2018

[AB 3083](#) prohibits schools from participating in a food incentive program that rewards pupils by providing foods or beverages that do not comply with the **nutritional standards** established by California law.
Referred to the State Assembly's Committee on Education 5/9/2018

COLORADO

[SB 13](#) expands state support for reduce price school meal co-pays from students in grades K-5 to students in grades K-8.
Signed into law by the Governor 5/29/2018

CONNECTICUT

[HB 5452](#) requires that each local and regional board of education shall implement a plan on or after October 1, 2019, based on previously developed guidelines for the management of students with life-threatening **food allergies** or glycogen storage disease enrolled in school. Requiring that the plan is available through the board's website and include the plans in any programs relating to school climate or wellness.
Signed into law by the Governor 6/14/2018

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

[B22-0313](#) makes changes to nutrition and wellness policies in District Schools. It makes changes to **nutrition standards**; expands **breakfast after the bell** and **alternate serving models** for breakfast participation programs; encourages schools to purchase food in a manner consistent with the Good Food Purchasing Program's core values; requires OSSE to submit a report to the Mayor and Council regarding best practices for developing a central kitchen; and requires that public and charter school students participate in specified amounts of age-appropriate physical education per week.

Passed by the Council of the District of Columbia. Transmitted to the Mayor 12/31/2018

[B22-0903](#) requires the Mayor to operate a **self-operated school food service** pilot program in ten District of Columbia public schools during the 2020 to 2022 school years. The bill also requires the Mayor to provide the Council a report on food services at all public schools within 3 months of the end of the pilot program.

Notice of Intent to Act Published in the District of Columbia Register 7/20/2018

FLORIDA

[SB 1610](#) requires a school to check for eligibility for free or reduced price meals and follow specific steps to notify a parent or guardian if a student accumulates **unpaid meal debt** of greater value than five meals. The bill also requires schools (except CEP schools) to provide a free and reduced-price application to every enrolled student, in addition to offering assistance in completing the application if needed.

Died in Education Committee 3/10/2018

[SB 1732](#) requires the Florida Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, to annually provide to school districts certain information relating to **school garden programs** and authorizes schools that establish a school garden program to allow certain students to select and receive produce from the garden on a specified day each week.

Died in Agriculture Committee 3/10/2018

HAWAII

[HB 2025](#) authorizes the Department of Education to issue grants to establish a **composting grant pilot project** in Department of Education schools. Authorizes a composting grant pilot project working group. Requires a report to the Legislature and appropriates funds.

Signed into law by the Governor 7/10/2018

[HB 2156](#) authorizes the Department of Education to establish a **Farm to School Program**. Requires the Farm to School Coordinator in the Department of Agriculture to work in collaboration with the Department of Education on any Farm to School Program. Establishes two FTE Farm to School staff positions within the Department of Education. Appropriates funds.

Passed House, referred to Senate Committees on Education, Agriculture & Environment and Ways and Means 3/6/2018

[HB 2497](#) establishes a **farm to school grant pilot program** within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants to participants in the Hawaii farm to school program. Requires the Farm to School Coordinator to report to the Legislature. Makes appropriations.

Reported favorably from House Committee on Agriculture. Referred to House Committees on Education and Finance 2/9/2018

[SB 2307](#) authorizes the Department of Education to establish a **farm to school program**. Requires the farm to school coordinator in the department of agriculture to work in collaboration with the department of education on any

farm to school program. Establishes two FTE farm to school staff positions within the department of education. Appropriates funds.
Introduced, referred to Senate Committees on Education, Agriculture & Environment and Ways and Means 1/22/2018

[SB 2385](#) requires all schools where students are required to eat meals at school to establish a **recess** period of not less than fifteen minutes prior to the lunch period for all grade levels.

Referred to Senate Committee on Education. Committee deferred on the measure 1/31/2018

[SB 2387](#) authorizes the Department of Education to establish a **Farm to School Program** and designate a Farm to School Coordinator to work in collaboration with the head of the Department of Agriculture's Hawaii Farm to School Program. Appropriates funds for two full-time equivalent Farm to School staff positions within DOE.

Passed Senate. Reported favorably by House Committees on Education, Agriculture. Referred to Committee on Finance 3/22/2018

[SB 2928](#) establishes and appropriates funds for a **Farm to School** Grant Pilot Program within the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to provide grants to schools, early care and education centers, nonprofits, soil and water conservation districts, and food producers participating in the Hawaii Farm to School Program.

Passed Senate and House. Failed to pass Conference Committee before deadline 4/27/2018

[SB 3060](#) requires the department of education to provide school meals to students at **charter schools**.

Appropriates funds for costs of meals.

Referred to Senate Committee on Education. Committee deferred on the measure 2/12/2018

[SR 98](#) requests that the Hawaii Department of Education reexamines the menu schedules for school meals to give local produce suppliers the ability to provide **locally grown produce** in each meal, in keeping with USDA standards.

Adopted by the Senate 3/28/2018

[SR 131](#) urges the Department of Education to ensure that all public school students, including public **charter school** students, have equal access to appropriate food services.

Adopted by the Senate 4/4/2018

[SCR 180](#) requests the Department of Education to reexamine the menu scheduled for school meals to give local produce suppliers the ability to provide **locally grown produce** in keeping with U.S. Department of Agriculture standards.

Adopted by the Senate. Referred to House Committees on Education, Finance 4/12/2018

[SCR 194](#) urges the Hawaii Department of Education to ensure that all public school students, including public **charter school** students, have equal access to appropriate food services.

Adopted by the Senate. Referred to the House Committee on Finance 4/16/2018

ILLINOIS

[SB 2428](#) creates the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act. Provides that every school in the state shall provide a federally reimbursable lunch to a student of that school who requests the lunch, regardless of whether the student can pay for the lunch or has **unpaid meal debt**. Provides that if a student owes money for 5 or more lunches, a school shall reach out to the parent or guardian of the student to attempt collection of the unpaid meal debt and to request that the parent or guardian enroll the student in a free or reduced price lunch program. Provides that a

school may not publicly identify or stigmatize a student with unpaid meal debt. Effective immediately.

Signed by the Governor. Becomes Public Act 100-1092 8/26/2018

INDIANA

[HCR 3](#) urges the legislative council to assign the topic of reducing overt identification of free and reduced-price lunch students through **alternate charge and meal policies**.

Referred to the Committee on Education 1/4/2018

[SB 314](#) requires any student who requests a meal to be provided a reimbursable meal regardless of their ability to pay or status of their **unpaid meal charges**.

Referred to the Committee on Education 1/4/2018

IOWA

[HF 2271](#) would require **lead testing** in the water supply systems of schools and child care centers.

Introduced 2/7/2018

[HF 2467](#) requires school districts to establish an **unpaid meal debt** policy. The bill also requires school nutrition programs to direct communications about school meals debt to parents or guardians, encourages providing a reimbursable meal regardless of ability to pay, and prohibits activities that would identify or stigmatize a student for unpaid meals, including discarding a meal served to a student, marking a student with a stamp, requiring students to perform chores, or denying participation in activities.

Signed into law by the Governor 4/17/2018

LOUISIANA

[HB 284](#) revises procedures relative to **unpaid meal debt**. This bill repeals R.S. 17:192.1, relative to school nutrition programs; it revises procedures relative to a student's inability to pay for school meals and a student's meal debt.

Requires the state Department of Education to provide assistance relative to certain federal nutrition options.

Passed House, referred to the Senate Committee on Education 4/9/2018

[HB 616](#) repeals state **nutritional requirements** for foods and beverages sold on public school campuses during the school day.

Signed by the Governor. Becomes Act No. 330 5/15/2018

[SB 245](#) revises procedures relative to **unpaid meal debt**. This bill repeals R.S. 17:192.1, relative to school nutrition programs; it revises procedures relative to a student's inability to pay for school meals and a student's meal debt.

Requires the state Department of Education to provide assistance relative to certain federal nutrition options.

Companion to HB 284.

Introduced 3/12/2018

[SR 154](#) requests that the Louisiana Department of Education create a committee to study and develop mechanisms and processes whereby every student is served a meal at school regardless of ability to pay, a practice commonly called **universal school meals**.

Adopted by the Senate and sent to the Secretary of State 5/17/2018

MAINE

[LD 809](#) requires school districts where 50% or more of students qualify for free or reduced lunch to operate **alternative breakfast** delivery service, commonly referred to as **breakfast after the bell**. School districts would be able to opt out of operating such a program if the governing body holds a public hearing regarding the service and votes in the affirmative that it is not financially or logistically viable. Provides \$500,000 in funding in both the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years to such programs.

Vetoed by the Governor. Veto Override passes the Senate, fails in the House 6/21/2018

[LD 816](#) provides **state funding** for the student share of reimbursable **reduced price** school meals under the National School Lunch Program.

Died when the Senate adjourned sine die 9/13/2018

[LD 1684](#) requires school districts to provide a reimbursable meal to all students who requests one, regardless of ability to pay or **unpaid meal debt**. Prohibits the identification or stigmatization of students who cannot pay for a meal and/or have unpaid meal debt. Requires communication about unpaid meal debts be directed to a parent or guardian, rather than the student. Requires that school boards establish a policy for unpaid meal debt.

Died when the Senate adjourned sine die 9/13/2018

MARYLAND

[HB 315](#) provides **state funding** to cover the **student share** of the cost for reduced price meals served under the School Breakfast Program (SBP) by 2022 and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) by 2023.

Approved by the Governor 5/8/2018

[HB 806](#) establishes the **Summer Meals Expansion Grant Pilot Program** to provide funds to sponsors to increase the number of children and the number of meals served through the Summer Food Service Program, establishes the Summer Meals Expansion Grant Fund and requires the Department, in consultation with certain stakeholders, to develop a statewide plan.

Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, hearing held on 2/22/2018

[HB 1235](#) authorizes certain schools to remain eligible to participate in the Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom **Breakfast Program** under certain circumstances and requires the Governor to include an appropriation of \$11,900,000 for the Program in the annual budget bill.

Referred to the House Committees on Ways and Means, Appropriations; Ways and Means hearing held on 3/13/2018

[HB 1545](#) would require more stringent milk, whole grains and sodium school meal **nutrition standards** than currently required under federal law.

Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, hearing held on 3/2/2018

[SB 740](#) provides **state funding** to cover the **student share** of the cost for reduced price meals served under the School Breakfast Program (SBP) by 2022 and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) by 2023.

Vetoed by the Governor (Duplicative) 5/25/2018

[SB 818](#) authorizes certain schools to remain eligible to participate in the Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom **Breakfast Program** under certain circumstances, requires the Governor to include an appropriation of \$7,550,000 for the Program in the annual budget bill and defines "secondary schools" to include middle schools and high schools.

Approved by the Governor 5/8/2018

MASSACHUSETTS

[H 327](#) requires all public schools that are required to serve breakfast – those where at least sixty percent or more students are eligible for free or reduced price meals – to offer all students **breakfast after the instructional day has begun**. Allows each school to determine the best service model for their students. Classifies student time spent consuming breakfast while instruction is being provided as instructional time for reporting purposes.

Accompanied as a new draft, See S 2441 4/19/2018

[H 3549](#) requires the Massachusetts School Building Authority in collaboration with the department of elementary and secondary education, subject to appropriation, to develop a 3-year pilot program for up to 1 school per calendar year for public elementary and secondary schools with the purpose of **updating school kitchens** for fresh food preparation and storage.

Accompanied as a new draft, See H 4395 4/11/2018

[H 4395](#) requires the Massachusetts School Building Authority in collaboration with the department of elementary and secondary education, subject to appropriation, to develop a 3-year pilot program for up to 1 school per calendar year for public elementary and secondary schools with the purpose of **updating school kitchens** for fresh food preparation and storage.

Reported from the Committee on Education, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means 4/11/2018

[H 4422](#) prohibits a school or school district in situations where a student is unable to pay for a meal or has **unpaid meal debt** from: publicly identifying such a student, serving an alternative meal, disposing a meal that has been served to a student, barring such a student from attending or participating in extracurricular activities or events, or taking disciplinary action against such a student.

Assigned to a study order 7/12/2018

[S 242](#) requires all public schools that are required to serve breakfast – those where at least sixty percent or more students are eligible for free or reduced price meals – to offer all students **breakfast after the instructional day has begun**. Allows each school to determine the best service model for their students. Classifies student time spent consuming breakfast while instruction is being provided as instructional time for reporting purposes.

Accompanied as a new draft, See S 2441 4/19/2018

[S 2390](#) prohibits a school or school district in situations where a student is unable to pay for a meal or has **unpaid meal debt** from: publicly identifying such a student, serving an alternate meal, disposing of a meal that has been served to a student, barring such a student from attending or participating in extracurricular activities or events, taking disciplinary action against such a student, or requiring a parent or guardian to pay fees or costs in excess of the amount owed for meals served. Requires schools and school districts to direct communication about unpaid meal debt to a parent or guardian and to notify them of a negative balance within ten days. During this ten day window, the bill prohibits restricting student access to a meal. Requires a school or school district to take certain steps to maximize federal revenue and minimize student debt. Requires a school or school district to adopt CEP if eligible. Prohibits a school or school district from informing the Department of Children and Families of unpaid meal debt. Convenes a taskforce to monitor implementation of the bill.

Assigned to a study order 5/17/2018

[S 2441](#) requires all public schools that are required to serve breakfast – those where at least sixty percent or more students are eligible for free or reduced price meals – to offer all students **breakfast after the instructional day has begun**. Allows each school to determine the best service model for their students. Classifies student time spent

consuming breakfast while instruction is being provided as instructional time for reporting purposes.

Substituted for a new draft, See S 2626 7/26/2018

[S 2626](#) requires all public schools that are required to serve breakfast – those where at least sixty percent or more students are eligible for free or reduced price meals – to offer all students **breakfast after the instructional day has begun**. Allows each school to determine the best service model for their students. Classifies student time spent consuming breakfast while instruction is being provided as instructional time for reporting purposes.

Passed the Senate. Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means 7/27/2018

MICHIGAN

[HB 6010](#) prohibits the identification or stigmatization of a student who cannot pay for a meal or has **unpaid meal debt**. Prohibits requiring such a student from performing chores or other work. Prohibits communicating with students under the age of 15 about unpaid meal debt, and requires such communication to be directed to parents or guardians. Prohibits charging fees or other costs in excess of the amount owed for meals served. Prohibits disciplinary actions that delay or deny a school meal. Prohibits disposing of a meal served to a student. Requires a school food authority to notify parents or guardians no later than ten days after a student's meal account reaches a negative balance.

Introduced, referred to House Committee on Education Reform 5/16/2018

[HB 6072](#) established the **Breakfast After the Bell** Nutrition Program. Requires schools where 70% or more students are eligible for free or reduced price lunch to offer a free breakfast to every student. Schools required to offer breakfast are allowed to determine the serving model that best suits its students. Requires the Department of Education to collect information about breakfast after the bell delivery models and make the information publicly available.

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education Reform 5/24/2018

[SB 1078](#) requires school districts to serve a reimbursable meal to all students and prohibits the public identification or stigmatization of a student with **unpaid meal debt** or who cannot pay for a meal. The bill would also prohibit charging collection fees or costs, requiring a student to perform chores to pay off a debt or discarding a meal that's been served to a student.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Committee on Education 9/5/2018

MINNESOTA

[HF 2724](#) requires Minnesota schools to post their **unpaid meal debt** policy on their websites and requires that the Commissioner of Education develop a model school meals policy and post it to the department's website. The bill establishes an unpaid school lunch account in order to collect and distribute funds to charter schools and school districts with unpaid lunch balances.

Introduced, referred to the House Education Innovation Policy Committee 2/20/2018

[HF 3073](#) would provide **universal school lunches** at no charge to all students and appropriates \$169,782,000 for this purpose.

Introduced, referred to the House Education Finance Committee 2/26/2018

[HF 3315](#) would, among other changes unrelated to school nutrition, allow a School Food Authority that contracts with a **food service management company** to renew its contract for up to four years. It would also regulate the collection of **unpaid meal debt** by prohibiting: actions that demean or stigmatize a student, denying a school lunch to a student regardless of unpaid meal debt, withdrawing a meal that has been served to a student based on unpaid meal debt, taking disciplinary actions against a student due to unpaid meal debt, and limiting a student's

participation in school activities due to unpaid meal debt.

Reported out of House Education Innovation Policy Committee, referred to Education Finance Committee 3/26/2018

[HF 4325](#) requires the Department of Education to identify schools and districts that meet the identified student percentage under the **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**, communicate this potential eligibility to the participants, provide technical application assistance, and track whether participants apply for CEP. Requires potentially eligible participants that decline to apply for CEP to report to the department the number of new students that could be served free meals under the provision, and the specific reasons cited for declining to apply.

Introduced, referred to the Committee on Education Finance 4/9/2018

[SF 3831](#) requires School Food Authorities that participate in the National School Lunch Program to adopt and post to their website a **school meals policy** that meets certain criteria related to student meal charges and **unpaid meal debt**. It requires that these policies prohibit shaming or ostracizing a student and withdrawing a meal served to a student. It also requires that these policies address any charges applied related to unpaid meals and whether the SFA uses a collection agency to pursue unpaid meal debt. If an SFA contracts with a food service management company, the policy must be provided to the company and the contract must require adherence with the policy. If an SFA does not adopt a school meals policy, state reimbursement for meals served will be paid instead to an "unpaid school lunch account," a special revenue fund to be distributed proportionally each year to schools with unpaid lunch balances.

Introduced, referred to the Senate E-12 Policy Committee 3/26/2018

MISSISSIPPI

[HB 159](#) amends current **procurement** law to require advertisements for competitive bids to be posted on the procurement portal website established by the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration.

Died in Committee 1/30/2018

[HB 214](#) creates the Small School District Equipment, Maintenance and Infrastructure Grant Fund to provide assistance to eligible school districts with 4,500 students or less. The **grants** are intended to offset expenses for **school equipment** and other improvements to infrastructure.

Died in Committee 1/30/2018

[HB 494](#) is a reintroduction of a requirement to serve **low-fat meals** to all students who have been diagnosed as overweight.

Died in Committee 1/30/2018

[HB 510](#) requires the State Department of Education to provide **training** to various school officials on **marketing healthy foods** and creating a healthy cafeteria environment. It would also require that all schools display a "nutritional guide chart or the food pyramid."

Died in Committee 1/30/2018

MISSOURI

[HB 1939](#) requires schools to provide a reimbursable meal to any student who requests one, regardless of **unpaid meal debt** or ability to pay. Prohibits disposing of a served meal, publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student, or requiring a student who cannot pay or has unpaid meal debt to perform chores or other work. Requires a school to determine if a student is eligible for free meals if they accrue debt for five or more meals and to attempt to have the parent or guardian complete a meal application and assist with the application. Requires that communication about unpaid meal debt be directed to a parent or guardian, not the student. Prohibits requiring a parent or guardian to pay fees or costs from collections agencies hired to collect unpaid meal debt.

Referred to the House Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education 5/18/2018

[HB 2134](#) requires schools to offer **Breakfast After the Bell** if: 70% or more of the school's students were eligible for free or reduced price meals during the previous year, the school has adopted CEP, or the school has an individual site percentage for free or reduced price meals of 70% or more and is a Provision 2 school. This requirement is subject to exceptions. Requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to notify and assist affected schools, collect information on program implementation and report findings to the General Assembly.
Referred to the House Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education 5/18/2018

NEBRASKA

[LB 771](#) would provide **state reimbursement** to cover the **student share** of reduced price breakfast or lunch served by schools participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program.
Indefinitely postponed 4/18/2018

NEW HAMPSHIRE

[SB 526](#) requires the state Department of Education to provide **state reimbursement** to cover the **student share** of **school breakfast** for reduced price eligible students.
Laid on table 3/22/2018

NEW JERSEY

[A 447](#) requires the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop and administer a "**breakfast after the bell**" incentive fund to provide an additional reimbursement to certain school districts that participate in the federal school breakfast program. The incentive fund will provide a 10-cent per breakfast supplement to the existing federal reimbursement to a school district with schools that participate in the federal school breakfast program that serve "breakfast after the bell" with 20 to 100 percent of its students eligible for free or reduced price breakfast.
Introduced, referred to the Assembly Women and Children Committee 1/9/2018

[A 3142](#) directs the chief school administrator of a school district that includes a middle school or high school to establish a food services **advisory committee** to consider and recommend school breakfast and lunch menu options that better reflect the **cultural, traditional, and dietary food preferences** of the student body, including vegetarian and vegan meal options. The committee will serve in an advisory capacity and make recommendations to the chief school administrator, the school principals, and the food services provider.
Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee 2/8/2018

[A 3153](#) requires the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop and administer a two-year **school breakfast kiosk pilot program** in three school districts selected by the Commissioner of Education, in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State. The bill provides that a local or regional school district of the State may establish a school breakfast kiosk pilot program at the school. The Department of Agriculture is required to award a pilot program to one school district in each of the three regions of the State.
Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee 2/8/2018

[A 3345](#) establishes a **revolving fund** in the Department of Agriculture to be known as the "Nourishing Young Minds Initiative Fund." The fund would be used to provide support and funding to child food and nutrition programs.
Introduced, referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 2/12/2018

[A 3386](#) requires a public school operated in which 5% or more of the students enrolled in the school on or before the last school day before October 16 of the preceding school year were eligible for free or reduced price meals under the federal School Lunch Program or the federal School Breakfast Program to establish a **school breakfast** program in the school.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 2/15/2018

[A 3501](#) would require the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop and make available to each school district and nonpublic school participating in the National School Lunch Program or in a school breakfast program, an **Internet-based school meal application**. Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program or in a school breakfast program would be encouraged to make the online school meal application available. A participating school district or nonpublic school that implements the online school meal application would also be required to continue to make available paper applications.

Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee 5/10/2018

[A 3502](#) requires school districts to report at least biannually to Department of Agriculture number of students who are **denied school breakfast or school lunch**.

Substituted by S 1896 4/12/2018

[A 3503](#) requires every school district in which there is at least one school that qualifies for the **Community Eligibility Provision**, but is not implementing it, to report the reasons for nonparticipation in writing to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Education.

Substituted by S 1895 4/12/2018

[A 3504](#) expands the **summer meal program** to all school districts with 50 percent or more of students eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Substituted by S 1897 4/12/2018

[A 3603](#) promotes healthy food choices in school cafeterias by encouraging schools to adopt the strategies of **The Smarter Lunchroom Movement**, which offers simple, low to no-cost evidence-based tools that improve child eating behaviors in school cafeterias. Requires the Commissioner of Education to make every effort to assist, guide and support schools in implementing said strategies.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee 3/12/2018

[A 3639](#) directs the Department of Agriculture to accept and post on its website **recipes** submitted to the department by any public or nonpublic school that participates in the New Jersey "**Farm to School**" program. The bill requires that all recipes submitted to and accepted by the department must include a food item made from a farm to school product. Recipes that are approved by the department must be included in an electronic Farm to School Cookbook made available on the department's website.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 3/12/2018

[A 3811](#) establishes a farm-based education program, called the "**Adopt-a-Farm**" school partnership program in public schools, to increase awareness of the important role that local, fresh produce plays in promoting good health and of its availability in the State, as well as develop an educated agricultural workforce and accelerate garden and farm-based education for public school students in the State.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 4/5/2018

[A 3886](#) provides additional protections for a student with **unpaid meal debt**. Under the bill, a school district would not be permitted to publicly identify or stigmatize a student who cannot pay for a school meal or has unpaid meal debt. The district would not be permitted to require the student to do chores or other work to pay for unpaid meal

debt. The bill also requires a school district to communicate about unpaid meal debt with the parent or guardian, not to the student. The bill clarifies that a school district is allowed to send a student home with a letter addressed to a parent or guardian regarding unpaid meal debt.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee 5/7/2018

[A 4062](#) requires the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Department of Education, to develop **promotional material** for the “School Meal Program” and provide every school district with the “School Meal Program” promotional material, which is required to include, but need not be limited to, pamphlets, presentation material, webinars and sample letters schools may send to parents.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee. Identical to S 2527 6/4/2018

[A4360](#) provides **anti-stigmatization** protections to public school student whose school breakfast or school lunch bill is in arrears and requires school district to communicate about arrearages to parent and not to student.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee 9/13/2018

[A4396](#) requires the state Department of Agriculture to increase participation in school meal programs through a **marketing campaign**.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 9/13/2018

[A 4595](#) allows a school food authority to pursue a request for proposal from a **food service management company** for the provision of school meals under the federal School Breakfast Program or the National School Lunch Program through a cost reimbursable contract or a fixed price contract.

Reported favorably out of the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 10/22/2018

[A 4622](#) requires school districts at the beginning of each school year to provide to the parent or guardian of each student a **hardcopy of information** on the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and a **hardcopy application** for the school lunch and school breakfast programs with instructions. It also **requires the parent or guardian to sign and return** either an application or a signed card indicating they have received the information, and that school districts make at least two attempts to contact a parent or guardian about the programs when a student accrues unpaid meal debt equivalent to five meals.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Education Committee 10/22/2018

[A 4703](#) requires the state’s Chief Technology Officer to develop and implement an “**Anti-Hunger Link**” for all state websites. The link would direct users to a dedicated page listing all emergency food programs in the state, such as emergency meal providers, food pantries, soup kitchens, child and senior feeding programs, faith based anti-hunger initiatives and other food programs.

Identical to S 3234 in the Senate. Passed by the Assembly 12/17/2018

[AR 118](#) on February 12th. The bill **urges Congress to reauthorize** the "Child Nutrition Act of 1966" while also noting lapse in reauthorization since the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) expired on September 30, 2015.

Referred to Agriculture Committee 2/12/2018

[AR 155](#) urges the President and the United States Congress to enact measures to provide an enhanced **federal subsidy** to public schools in the State that use **local produce** for the federal School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program.

Introduced, referred to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 4/5/2018

[S 334](#) requires the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop and administer a “**breakfast after the bell**” incentive fund to provide an additional reimbursement to certain school

districts that participate in the federal school breakfast program. The incentive fund will provide a 10-cent per breakfast supplement to the existing federal reimbursement to a school district with schools that participate in the federal school breakfast program that serve “breakfast after the bell” with 20 to 100 percent of its students eligible for free or reduced price breakfast.

Introduced, referred to the Assembly Women and Children Committee 1/9/2018

[S 361](#) authorizes five counties to establish a **county-wide purchasing** system to provide custodial or food services, or both, to school districts within the county. If a county establishes a county-wide purchasing system and a school district in the county is currently using a private contractor for a service, or in the future decides to privatize the service, the district would be required to participate in the county-wide contract.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 1/9/2018

[S 642](#) requires all schools with 5% or more free and reduced-price eligibility to establish a **school breakfast program**. The bill specifies steps for the design and implementation of a breakfast program.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 1/9/2018

[S 653](#) requires the Commissioner of Education to “make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts and nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, and implementing the strategies of the **Smarter Lunchroom Movement.**”

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 1/9/2018

[S 1319](#) would require the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop and make available to each school district and nonpublic school participating in the National School Lunch Program or in a school breakfast program, an **Internet-based school meal application**. Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program or in a school breakfast program would be encouraged to make the online school meal application available. A participating school district or nonpublic school that implements the online school meal application would also be required to continue to make available paper applications.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 2/1/2018

[S 1545](#) would require contracts for professional and technical services awarded by state agencies, counties, municipalities and school districts be subject to a **competitive bidding** process.

Introduced, referred to the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee 2/5/2018

[S 1894](#) requires certain public schools in which 70 percent or more of the students are free or reduced price eligible to establish a “**breakfast after the bell**” program. Under current law, a school with 20 percent or more of those eligible students must have a school breakfast program. Provides that, within six months of the bill’s effective date, each school district must submit a plan to the Department of Agriculture for the establishment of a “breakfast after the bell” program for all grades at each school that is subject to the provisions of the bill. Provides for the issuance of waivers to provisions of the bill.

Passed both the Assembly and Senate, signed into law by the Governor 5/30/2018

[S 1895](#) requires every school district in which there is at least one school that qualifies for the **Community Eligibility Provision**, but is not implementing it, to report the reasons for nonparticipation in writing to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Education.

Passed both the Assembly and Senate, signed into law by the Governor 5/30/2018

[S 1896](#) requires school district to report at least biannually to Department of Agriculture number of students who are **denied school breakfast or school lunch**.

Passed both the Assembly and Senate, signed into law by the Governor 5/30/2018

[S 1897](#) expands **summer meal program** to all school districts with 50 percent or more of students eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Passed both the Assembly and Senate, signed into law by the Governor 5/30/2018

[S 2527](#) requires the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Department of Education, to develop **promotional material** for the “School Meal Program” and to provide every school district with the promotional material, which will include, but need not be limited to, pamphlets, presentation material, webinars and sample letters that schools may send to parents.

Passed by the Senate, referred to the Assembly Education Committee. Identical to A 4062. 6/25/2018

[S 2886](#) provides **anti-stigmatization** protections to public school student whose school breakfast or school lunch bill is in arrears and requires school district to communicate about arrearages to parent and not to student.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 8/27/2018

[S 2979](#) requires that information about the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program, including an application for free or reduced price meals, be provided to the parent or guardian of each student at the beginning of each school year. It would regulate school district conduct toward students with **unpaid meal debt** by prohibiting: publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for a school meal, requiring a student who cannot pay for a school meal to do chores or other work, and requiring a student to discard a school meal after it has been served. It also provides that when a student owes the equivalent of five or more meals that a school district shall determine if the student is eligible for free or reduced price meals and make at least two attempts to contact a parent or guardian about completing a school meals application.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 9/24/2018

[S 3111](#) allows a school food authority to pursue a request for proposal from a **food service management company** for the provision of school meals under the federal School Breakfast Program or the National School Lunch Program through a cost reimbursable contract or a fixed price contract.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 10/18/2018

[S 3234](#) requires the state’s Chief Technology Officer to develop and implement an “**Anti-Hunger Link**” for all state websites. The link would direct users to a dedicated page listing all emergency food programs in the state, such as emergency meal providers, food pantries, soup kitchens, child and senior feeding programs, faith based anti-hunger initiatives and other food programs.

Identical to A 4703. Introduced, referred to the Senate Health, Human Services & Senior Citizens Committee 11/26/2018

NEW MEXICO

[HB 62](#) makes an appropriation to provide **New Mexico-grown** fresh fruits and fresh vegetables for school meals. \$400,000 is appropriated to the public education department in FY 2019, as well as in subsequent fiscal years.

Identical to SB 106. Action postponed indefinitely 1/26/2018

[HM 19](#) recognizes that funding for school nutrition programs to promote healthier lifestyles and academic achievement is a wise investment in the health of the state’s people and its future workforce and resolves that January 23, 2018 be declared “**School Nutrition Day.**”

Passed by the House 1/23/2018

[SB 106](#) makes an appropriation to provide **New Mexico-grown** fresh fruits and fresh vegetables for school meals. \$400,000 is appropriated to the public education department in FY 2019, as well as in subsequent fiscal years.

Identical to HB 62. Action postponed indefinitely 1/30/2018

[SM 19](#) recognizes that funding for school nutrition programs to promote healthier lifestyles and academic achievement is a wise investment in the health of the state's people and its future workforce and resolves that January 23, 2018 be declared "**School Nutrition Day**."
Passed by the Senate 1/23/2018

[SJM 16](#) requests that the New Mexico Education Department identify the **availability of additional federal programs** to improve New Mexico school meals and student health, as well as **program funding and training**. The measure also requests that the department conduct an analysis of the impact that increased applications for funding from federal school lunch or breakfast programs would have on school lunch debt.
Passed both chambers 2/14/2018

NEW YORK¹

[A 3456](#) changes **food service contract** requirements from a "Lowest Maximum Cost Per Meal" bid practice, to a "Request for Proposal" practice, allowing districts more flexibility to improve their menus' quality and variety.
Held for consideration in the Assembly Education Committee 6/6/2018

[A 7011](#) permits a school district to favor **locally or regionally sourced** goods or services in **procurement** bids.
Identical to S 1430. Amended and recommitted to the Assembly Education Committee 3/19/2018

[A 9693](#) enacts the state and local government **food waste** prevention and diversion act, requiring facilities generating excess food waste to take measures to minimize such waste.
Introduced, referred to the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee 2/2/2018

[A 10600](#) requires public schools to offer **plant-based** food options to a student upon request by a student or person in parental relation to the student.
Identical to S 8517. Referred to the Assembly Committee on Education 5/8/2018

[S 1430](#) permits a school district to favor **locally or regionally sourced** goods or services in **procurement** bids.
Identical to A 7011. Amended and recommitted to the Senate Local Government Committee 2/23/2018

[S 7371](#) requires schools to adopt a school meal policy regarding **unpaid school meal** fees and prohibits schools from shaming or treating students differently when students have unpaid school lunch fees.
Identical to A 8203. Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 1/10/2018

[S 8517](#) requires public schools to offer **plant-based** food options to a student upon request by a student or person in parental relation to the student.
Identical to A 10600. Referred to the Senate Education Committee 5/9/2018

NORTH CAROLINA

[S 787](#) appropriates \$340,000 to Working Landscapes in Warren County for a pilot program to reimburse participating school districts based on the servings of **food they source from farms** within the North Central region.
Referred to the Senate Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate 5/31/2018

¹ New York passed four school meal policy changes in 2018 that aren't reflected in this report because the State Legislative Summary does not include appropriations bills. [These include](#): requiring school districts to implement an unpaid meal policy that meets newly enacted standards, requiring Breakfast After the Bell in schools where more than 70% of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals, expanding the state's Farm to School program, and increasing state school lunch reimbursement from \$0.059 per meal to \$0.25 per meal for schools that purchase 30% of their ingredients from New York farms.

OHIO

[HB 734](#) requires the Department of Education to establish a program under which qualifying higher-poverty public schools must offer **school breakfast** to all enrolled students during the school day and make efforts to increase participation in their breakfast programs. It would also require the Department to submit a report on the breakfast program to the General Assembly and the Governor annually, publish a list of qualifying public schools, monitor participating schools and assist in implementing and administering the program.

Introduced, referred to the House Education and Career Readiness Committee 11/13/2018

OKLAHOMA

[SB 1104](#) requires that a school provide an application for free or reduced price meals in every enrollment packet, and to submit an application on behalf of all students they become aware are categorically eligible. It also requires schools to provide a reimbursable meal to all students and to direct all communications about **unpaid meal debt** to a student's parent or guardian. The bill also requires school officials to take certain actions when a student accrues specified levels of unpaid meal debt, and prohibits conduct that would publicly identify or stigmatize a student based on their inability to pay.

Reported from the Senate Education Committee, recommended for final passage as amended 2/19/2018

PENNSYLVANIA

[HB 2471](#) directs the State Board of Education to issue regulations to allow schools to participate in the "**Shared Table**" initiative, permitting schools to redistribute unused food by allowing students to put unwanted food in a specified location.

Referred to the House Education Committee 6/6/2018

[HR 738](#) recognizes the week of March 5 through 9, 2018, as "**National School Breakfast Week**" in Pennsylvania.

Adopted by the House of Representatives 3/13/2018

[HR 963](#) urges the Congress of the United States to revisit the **Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010** to allow students the **flexibility** to choose their beverages and healthy foods they consume.

Referred to the House Health Committee 6/6/2018

RHODE ISLAND

[H 7699](#) requires schools to comply with composting and recycling laws, would promote the **donation of unspoiled** nonperishable food by schools, and would promote the selection of **local** food service companies for school food service contracts and the selection of vendors who **recycle organic-waste** at appropriate facilities.

Passed House of Representatives 6/21/2018

[H 8059](#) prohibits the stigmatization (**lunch-shaming**) of children unable to pay for meals served as part of the breakfast or lunch program offered at elementary and secondary schools. Prohibits a school or school district from: publicly identifying a student for **unpaid meal debt** or inability to pay for a meal. Requires a school or school district to: direct communication about unpaid meal debt to parents or guardians; provide a reimbursable meal to any child who requests one, regardless of ability to pay or unpaid meal debt; and to explore ways to improve and coordinate communications with parents and/or guardians with respect to paying for school meals.

Held in Committee for further study 4/25/2018

SOUTH DAKOTA

[SB 162](#) would require a school to provide a USDA reimbursable meal to any student that requests one regardless of their ability to pay or **unpaid meal debt**.

Failed in Senate 2/21/2018

TENNESSEE

[HB 1690](#) requires schools to provide a reimbursable meal to any student who requests one, regardless of their ability to pay. Among other provisions, the bill specifies action steps if a student carries **unpaid meal debt** greater than five meals and prohibits public identification of the student.

Identical to SB 1707. Taken off House Education Administration & Planning Committee calendar notice 3/27/2018

[SB 1707](#) requires schools to provide a reimbursable meal to any student who requests one, regardless of their ability to pay. Among other provisions, the bill specifies action steps if a student carries **unpaid meal debt** greater than five meals and prohibits public identification of the student.

Identical to HB 1690. Assigned to General Subcommittee of the Senate Education Committee 3/28/2018

VIRGINIA

[HB 50](#) requires each local school board to adopt policies that prohibit school board employees from requiring a student who cannot pay for a meal at school or who owes **unpaid meal debt** to do chores or other work to pay for such meals or wear a wristband or hand stamp. It also requires school board employees to direct any communication relating to a school meal debt to the student's parent, which may be made by a letter addressed to the parent to be sent home with the student.

Signed into law by the Governor 3/19/2018

[HB 1477](#) directs each Virginia school board to require every public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). The bill addresses **meal charge policies** and **unpaid meal debt** by requires that every student who requests a meal receives a reimbursable meal, regardless of their ability to pay, and prohibits public identification of the student.

Left in Education Committee 2/13/2018

VERMONT

[HCR 237](#) designates Wednesday, February 7, 2018 as **Farm to School Awareness Day** at the State House.

Adopted by both the House and Senate 2/9/2018

WASHINGTON

[HB 1508](#) acknowledges that school food programs are associated with improvements for students' absenteeism, test results and graduation rates. Furthermore, it requires "high-needs" schools to offer **breakfast after the bell** to each student. Finally, the bill also increases support for **farm to school** programs.

Signed into law by the Governor. Effective date 6/7/2018

[HB 2610](#) requires schools to distribute and collect from each household of students an **application** for free and reduced price meals. It also prohibits school personnel from taking actions that would publicly identify or stigmatize a student who cannot pay for a school meal or who carries **unpaid meal debt**. It also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop best practices for local **meal charge policies** and develop and implement a plan to

increase the number of schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision.

Signed into law by the Governor. Effective date 6/7/2018

[HB 2712](#) requires school districts with school lunch programs to **eliminate lunch copays** for students in prekindergarten through third grade who qualify for reduced-price lunches. It also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop best practices for local **meal charge policies** and develop and implement a plan to increase the number of schools participating in the **Community Eligibility Provision**.

By resolution, returned to the House Rules Committee for third reading 3/8/2018

[SB 6003](#) requires each high-needs school to offer **breakfast after the bell** to each student, provide **adequate time** for students to consume the offered food, and requires those breakfasts served in the program to comply with federal meal patterns and nutrition standards for school breakfast programs. It also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer one-time **start-up allocation grants** to each high-needs school implementing a breakfast after the bell program, and to work with the Education and Research Data Center to provide data to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee in order to conduct an analysis of new programs established in schools. Finally, the bill authorizes the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to coordinate with the department of agriculture to promote and facilitate new and existing regional markets programs, including **farm-to-school** initiatives and **small farm direct marketing** assistance.

By resolution, returned to the Senate Rules Committee for third reading 3/8/2018

WEST VIRGINIA

[HB 2172](#) provides that school nutrition plans include **take home meals** for low income students or any student who requests take home meals.

Introduced, referred to the House Education Committee 1/10/2018

[HB 4224](#) defines employment terms and requirements for **school service personnel**. The work day is defined as eight hours, and any amount of time exceeding the eight-hour work day shall be considered overtime and paid accordingly.

Introduced, referred to the House Industry and Labor Committee 1/19/2018

[HB 4478](#) authorizes public schools to create a **Shared Table Program** to allow for distribution of excess school food to students and others who are food insecure.

Signed into law by the Governor 3/27/2018

[SB 267](#) increases **compensation** for certain public employees, increases the annual salaries of members of the West Virginia State Police, increases the **minimum salaries** payable to public school teachers and professional personnel during the contract year and increases the minimum monthly pay for public **school service personnel**.

Signed into law by the Governor 2/21/2018

[SB 559](#) authorizes public schools to create a **Shared Table Program** to allow for distribution of excess school food to students and others who are food insecure.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Education Committee 2/15/2018

[SB 572](#) creates the West Virginia **Farm-to-School** Grant Program, defines terms, provides a method for allocating grants, authorizes rulemaking and requires program review and reports.

Referred to the House Finance Committee 3/2/2018