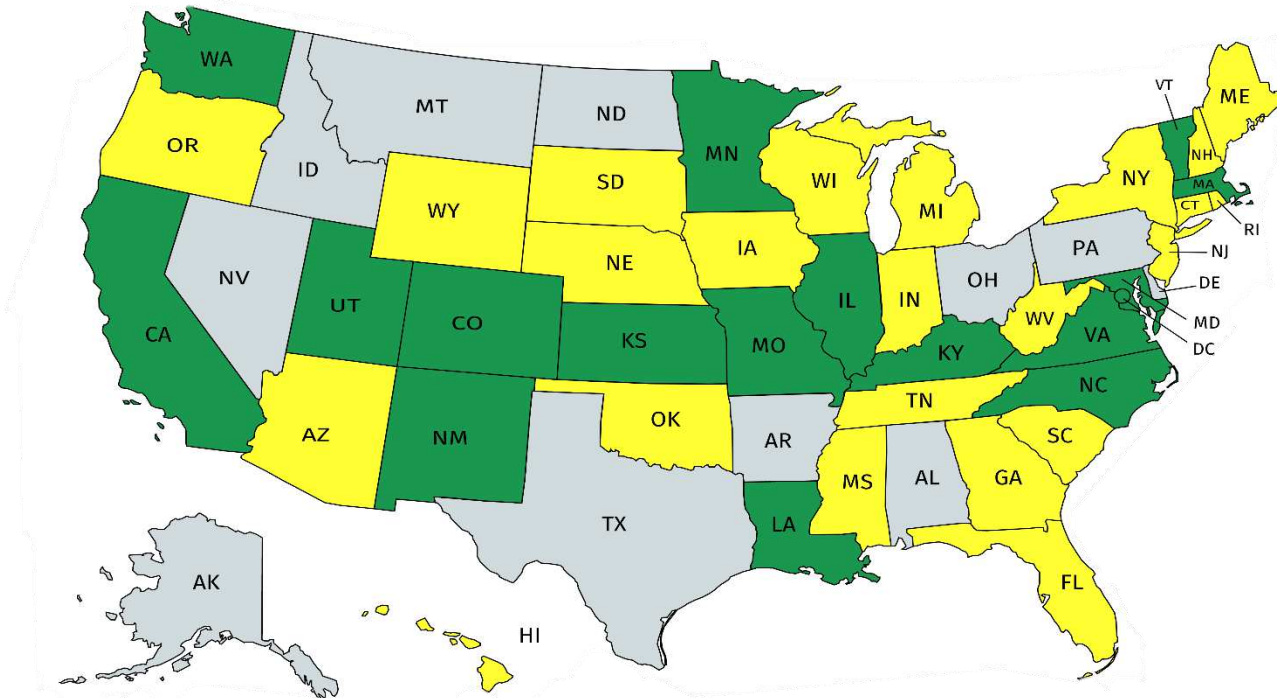




2020 STATE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY: SECOND QUARTER REPORT

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

Q2 STATE OVERVIEW



School Nutrition Bills: Introduced Passed

TREND WATCH

In the wake of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, a number of 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; however, a majority of the bills prohibit some form of **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 school nutrition programs and impact some operators.

Several states have introduced legislation expanding visibility or specifying new protocols for providing paper or web-based **applications** to students and families to **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 153 bills impacting school meals programs introduced in the first Seven months of 2020, 24 bills have been signed into law:

- California:
 - [ACR 178](#) proclaims March 2, 2020, to March 6, 2020, as **School Breakfast Week**.
 - [SB 98](#) or [AB 77](#) appropriates **funds** to local education agencies from the Federal Trust fund for activities that support academic achievement and mitigate learning loss related to COVID-19 school closures, including **access to school breakfast and lunch programs**.
- Colorado:
 - [HB 1418](#) requires the Colorado Department of Education to **reimburse** each participating school or district in the **school food purchasing program** as of December 2019, five cents for every school lunch provided in the previous school year.
 - [HB 1422](#) creates the **Food Pantry Assistance Program** (grant program) to aid Colorado food pantries and food banks in purchasing foods to provide meals to food insecure areas, which has expanded significantly as the COVID-19 public health emergency continues.
- District of Columbia:
 - [B 760](#) requires the Washington D.C. Office of the State Superintendent of Education to provide local funds, federal grants, private funds for the Healthy Schools Fund, among other school improvement related acts.
- Illinois:
 - [Amendment 1](#) of [HB 64](#) increases state funding for the National Lunch Program (NSLP) and covers all costs associated with the construction of a lunchroom and other infrastructure improvements.
- 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**. 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.
- 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.
- Maryland:

- [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.
- Massachusetts:
 - [Senate Amendment 01](#) of [HB 4808](#) provides \$5,250,000 to **fund outreach**, technical support, promotional materials and operations costs for school meal sites run by the **Child Nutrition Outreach Program** during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Minnesota:
 - [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.
- Missouri:
 - [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.
- 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.
- North Carolina:
 - [S 113](#) or [H 1023](#) provides \$75,000,000 to the Department of Public Instruction in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for emergency school nutrition services, including innovative school meals, for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), or Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).
- 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.
 - [HCR 301](#) is a concurrent resolution **to honor** healthcare and **food service workers** that are maintaining services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Vermont:
 - [H 965](#) requires that the Vermont Department of Education continue to seek waivers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to enable the use of federal funds for the delivery of school meals.
- 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.
 - [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.

SUMMARY AND STATUS OF LEGISLATION

ALASKA

None as of July 31, 2020.

ALABAMA

None as of July 31, 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 July 31, 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. 5/5/20

[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**.

Signed into law by Governor. 6/25/2020

[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.

Re-referred to Assembly Committee on Budget. 5/7/2020

[AB 3006](#) allows schools or districts to **establish a new base year** for the **National School Lunch Program** (NSLP) for the 2020 to 2021 School Year. If permitted, schools may use the Federal NSLP application or an alternative form to collect current data on household incomes.

Re-referred to Assembly Committee on Education. 5/5/2020

[SB 98](#) or [AB 77](#) appropriates **funds** to local education agencies from the Federal Trust fund for activities that support academic achievement and mitigate learning loss related to COVID-19 school closures, including **access to school breakfast and lunch programs**.

Signed into law by Governor. 6/29/2020

COLORADO

[HB 1418](#) requires the Colorado Department of Education to **reimburse** each participating school or district in the **school food purchasing program** as of December 2019, five cents for every school lunch provided in the previous school year.

Signed into law by Governor. 6/30/2020

[HB 1422](#) creates the **Food Pantry Assistance Program** (grant program) to aid Colorado food pantries and food banks in purchasing foods to provide meals to food insecure areas, which has expanded significantly as the COVID-19 public health emergency continues.

Signed into law by Governor. 6/22/2020

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 89](#) 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

DELAWARE

None as of July 31, 2020.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

[B 760](#) requires the Washington D.C. Office of the State Superintendent of Education to provide local funds, federal grants, private funds for the Healthy Schools Fund, among other school improvement related acts.

Signed into law by Governor. 7/7/2020

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 Georgia.

Adopted in the House. 2/26/2020

HAWAII

[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.

Re-referred to House Committee on Finance. 5/11/2020

[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

IDAHO

None as of July 31, 2020.

ILLINOIS

[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.

Referred to the Senate Committee on Assignments. 5/15/2020

[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.

Referred to the Senate Committee on Assignments. 4/12/2020

[Amendment 1](#) of [HB 64](#) **increases state funding** for the **National School Lunch Program** (NSLP) and covers all costs associated with the construction of a lunchroom and other infrastructure improvements.

Signed into law by Governor. 6/12/2020

[Amendment 2](#) of [SB 1805](#) would allow the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Comptroller, to transfer funds to the Education Assistance **fund** to **reimburse schools for costs** associated with providing **free school lunch** and **breakfast** programs.

Re-referred to House Committee on Rules. 6/23/2020

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

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

[HF 2645](#) creates the **Local Farm Produce Program** and provides funding to assist schools and districts with the purchasing of fresh farm produce for school meal programs.

Introduced, referred to House Committee on Education. 6/11/2020

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

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

[SR 296](#) is a **resolution that honors** teachers, bus drivers, custodial staff and other individuals that are **continuing to serve and deliver meals** to Kentucky students while schools and camps remain closed.

Introduced. 3/19/2020

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.

Signed into law by Governor. 6/4/20

[SB 294](#) requires the Louisiana Department of Education to **implement a program to reduce food loss** from school nutrition programs and increase the number of meals provided to students during school, after school, and away from school.

Referred to the Senate Committee on Education. 3/9/2020

[HB 105](#) guarantees \$5,105,090 in state funding to assist public school lunch programs. Local education agencies shall distribute funds monthly to school lunch programs.

Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. 5/26/2020

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.

Signed into law by Governor. 5/8/2020

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**.

Senate concurred, hearing scheduled. 6/8/2020

[SD 2922](#) provides guidance to allow school districts to honor current or existing contracts with vendors pertaining to school food services, meal transportation and other agreements during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Referred to the Senate Rules Committee. 4/23/2020

[SB 2664](#) encourages all school committee and districts to adopt policies that **promote access to healthy meals** for all students, maximize federal reimbursements, and reduce unpaid meal debt.

Referred to the Senate committee on Ways and Means. 4/27/2020

[Senate Amendment 01](#) of [HB 4808](#) provides \$5,250,000 to **fund outreach**, technical support, promotional materials and operations costs for school meal sites run by the **Child Nutrition Outreach Program** during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Signed into law by Governor. 7/16/2020

MICHIGAN

[HB 5914](#) provides state aid to the Michigan Department of Education to cover the costs of food service incurred during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Referred to House Committee on Appropriations. 6/24/2020

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.

Signed into law by Governor. 5/27/2020

[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.

Re-referred to House Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration. 5/7/2020

[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

[HF 163](#) requires all schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to **adopt a formal school meal policy** and to distribute this policy to all students, including posting online.

Passed by the House, sent to the Senate. 5/17/2020

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.

Referred to House Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education. 5/15/2020

[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**.

Referred to House Special Committee on Disease Control and Prevention. 5/15/2020

[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.

Signed into law by Governor. 4/10/2020

[Amendment 2008H04.09H](#) of [HB 2008](#) makes funds available through Missouri State agencies for the development and integration of safety requirements for agricultural production, food service, grocery and all food distribution workers.

Vetoed by Governor, dead. 6/30/2020

MONTANA

None as of July 31, 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 July 31, 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**.

Passed the House Committee on Finance. 6/1/2020

[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.

Passed the House, introduced in the Senate. 6/16/2020

NEW JERSEY

[A 1614](#) or [A 3153](#) would establish the **School Breakfast Kiosk pilot program**.

Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 1/14/2020

[A 1631](#) or [S 4353](#) 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.

Referred to Assembly Education Committee. 2/13/2020

[A 1630](#) or [S 599](#) clarifies that school districts are not required to restrict access to school meals if a student has **unpaid meal debt**.

Referred to Senate Education Committee. 2/14/2020

[A 1632](#) or [S 704](#) would require each school district to establish a "**School Meal Fund**" to assist students with school meal bill in arrears.

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 the Senate. 5/4/2020

[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**.
Vetoed by Assembly. 5/4/2020

[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

[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

[AB 4020](#), a bill restricting actions a school may take when a student's school breakfast or school lunch bill is in arrears. The school may not publicly identify the student and must direct all communications to the parent or guardian.

Introduced, referred to Assembly Committee on Education. 5/4/2020

[S 2446](#) appropriates \$1 million for the New Jersey Department of Agriculture to purchase agriculture food products from New Jersey farmers that are currently impacted by COVID-19 and to distribute these purchases products to school meal programs and food banks.

Introduced, referred to the Senate Committee on Economic Growth. 5/7/2020

[SJR 82](#) designates March 9th of each year as "COVID-19 Heroes Day" in New Jersey, to honor all those essential employees and food service workers that continue to provide meals and feed those in need during the pandemic.

Introduced, referred to Senate Committee on Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens. 6/4/2020

[S 20](#) or [A 3](#) appropriates additional funding that is required to cover the cost of breakfast to any public school student eligible for a reduced price breakfast under the School Breakfast Program (SBP).

Introduced, referred to Senate Committee on Budget and Appropriations. 6/24/2020

[AR 169](#) urges the President and Congress to enact "CARE for Kids Act of 2019" to provide automatic eligibility for free school meals to American children who are raised by grandparents or relatives other than their parents.

Introduced, referred to Assembly Committee on Education. 6/25/2020

[A 4387](#) requires the New Jersey Commissioner of Education and Secretary of Agriculture to develop a form that would allow any parent or guardian who fills out a school lunch application to share eligibility information with the Department of Human Services if he or she so chooses. This consent form shall be attached to, included, or incorporated into, the school lunch application form to determine eligibility for other assistance programs such as NJ FamilyCare and Medicaid programs.

Introduced, referred to Assembly Committee on Health. 7/6/2020

NEW MEXICO

[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

[A 10384](#) requires an ingredients list and nutritional facts are provided to students before serving a school meal. This bill allows for the information to be posted on the school district website and requires the school district to notify parents or guardians of any changes in the meals.

Referred to Assembly Committee on Education. 5/4/2020

[S 8468](#) establishes that the New York Department of Agriculture markets a program to purchase fresh produce from farms located in the state and distribute such products to areas of need determined by the commissioner of agriculture and markets to be food deserts.

Referred to Senate Committee on Agriculture. 6/3/2020

[S 8504](#) provides funding for food banks, emergency food providers and participating organizations to purchase food products from New York farmers and processors for distribution to those areas experiencing hunger or food insecurity.

Referred to Senate Committee on Rules. 6/6/2020

[S 8585](#) authorizes school districts to use school transportation funds to cover the expenses of transporting and delivering school meals to students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Referred to Senate Committee on Rules. 7/21/2020

[A 10791](#) establishes a state-wide task force comprised of school administrators, teachers and state agency commissioners to assist in the planning and redesigning of schools to reopen during the 2020-2021 school year.

Referred to Assembly Committee on Education. 7/10/2020

NORTH CAROLINA

[H 1038](#) or [S 704](#) provides \$80,000,000 to North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction for all school nutrition services being administered in response to the COVID-19.

Re-referred to House Committee on Health. 5/14/2020

[H 1119](#) requires that all food waste and recyclables, including food scraps from businesses, public municipalities, and schools, are recycled or donated for human consumption to the maximum extent practicable.

Referred to House Committee on Appropriations. 5/18/2020

[H 1035](#) provides \$75,000,000 for the Department of Public Instruction to provide emergency school nutrition services in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. These funds shall be distributed to schools and districts participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) or Summer Food

Service Program (SFSP).

Referred to Senate Committee on Rules and Operations. 6/17/2020

[S 113](#) or [H 1023](#) provides \$75,000,000 to the Department of Public Instruction in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for emergency school nutrition services, including innovative school meals, for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), or Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

Signed into law by Governor. 6/29/2020

NORTH DAKOTA

None as of July 31, 2020.

OHIO

None as of July 31, 2020.

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

[Senate Floor Amendment FS FA1](#) of [SB 1364](#) 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 July 31, 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

[S 2794](#) prohibits food and beverage providers, including in schools, from providing single-use plastic straws to consumers unless specifically requested.

Introduced, referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture. 3/12/2020

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. 6/6/2020

[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 July 31, 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.

Signed into law by Governor. 4/22/2020

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

[H 965](#) requires that the Vermont Department of Education continue to seek waivers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to enable the use of federal funds for the delivery of school meals.

Signed into law by Governor. 7/2/2020

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.

Signed into law by Governor. 3/18/2020

[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