

House File 2368 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2368

BY RINKER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to school lunch programs provided by school
2 districts and accredited nonpublic schools and making
3 appropriations.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **283A.6 Free school lunch program.**

2 1. Each school district described in chapter 274 and each
3 accredited nonpublic school shall operate a program under which
4 lunches are served to students in attendance at no charge to
5 the student or the student's family. Meals served pursuant to
6 this subsection shall be nutritionally adequate meals.

7 2. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and for
8 each fiscal year thereafter, there is appropriated from the
9 general fund of the state to the department of education an
10 amount necessary to make the payments to school districts and
11 accredited nonpublic schools necessary to cover the costs of
12 providing school lunches pursuant to this section that are not
13 covered by any Act of Congress and appropriated to the state of
14 Iowa for use in connection with school lunch programs.

15 3. The state board of education shall adopt rules pursuant
16 to chapter 17A to administer this section.

17 Sec. 2. Section 283A.10, Code 2024, is amended to read as
18 follows:

19 **283A.10 School breakfast or lunch in nonpublic schools.**

20 ~~The~~ Unless required under section 283A.6, the authorities
21 in charge of nonpublic schools may operate or provide for the
22 operation of school breakfast or lunch programs in schools
23 under their jurisdiction and may use funds appropriated to
24 them by the general assembly, gifts, funds received from sale
25 of school breakfasts or lunches under such programs, and any
26 other funds available to the nonpublic school. However,
27 unless required under section 283A.6, school breakfast or
28 lunch programs shall not be required in nonpublic schools.
29 The department of education shall direct the disbursement of
30 state funds to nonpublic schools for school breakfast or lunch
31 programs in the same manner as state funds are disbursed to
32 public schools. If a nonpublic school receives state funds for
33 the operation of a school breakfast or lunch program, meals
34 served under the program shall be nutritionally adequate meals,
35 as defined in [section 283A.1](#).

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EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3

4 This bill relates to school lunch programs provided by
5 school districts and accredited nonpublic schools (schools).

6 The bill requires each school to operate a program under
7 which lunches are served to students in attendance at no charge
8 to the student or the student's family.

9 The bill appropriates from the general fund of the state to
10 the department of education an amount necessary to make the
11 payments to schools necessary to cover the costs of providing
12 free school lunches that are not covered by any Act of Congress
13 and appropriated to the state of Iowa for use in connection
14 with school lunch programs. The bill requires the state board
15 of education to adopt rules to administer these provisions.
16 The bill makes conforming changes.