

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2480
Version: As Introduced

DATE: February 28, 2014

Authors: Selcer and others

Subject: School Meals; Increasing State Funding for Reduced Price Meals

Analyst: Tim Strom

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Overview

The federal government provides substantial funding for school meals programs. The federal aid is based on the student's ability to pay, as measured by the student's family's level of income. For most schools, the federal government pays \$2.93 for each meal served to a student who qualifies for a free meal, \$2.53 for each meal served to a student who qualifies for a reduced-price school meal, and \$0.28 per meal for each fully paid school lunch.

Minnesota supplements the federal school lunch payments with an added amount of state aid, equal to 12.5 cents for each lunch served.

This bill increases the reimbursement rate for school lunches served to students who qualify for reduced price meals from 12.5 to 52.5 cents per lunch served and prohibits a school district from charging a lunch fee to a student who is eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

Section

- 1 School lunch aid computation.** Increases the state aid for each reduced-price school lunch served to a student from 12.5 cents to 52.5 cents per meal served.
- 2 No fees.** Prohibits a school district from charging a lunch fee to a student who is eligible for a free or reduced-price meal.
- 3 School lunch; appropriation.** Increases the fiscal year 2015 appropriation for state aid for school lunches by \$3.35 million.