

File Number: H.F. 1217
Version: As introduced

Date: March 16, 2017

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Subject: Increasing school lunch reimbursements by 5 cents per meal served

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Overview

A portion of Minnesota's school aids system provides funding to participants (school districts, charter schools and nonpublic schools) in the school meals program. Under current law, the state spends about \$16.7 million per year on school lunch and another \$11 million on school breakfast and school milk.

While the school meals program is funded primarily by the federal government, the state provides significant state funding as well. The current state aid amount for school lunch is 12.5 cents per student lunch served for each free or fully-paid meal, and 52.5 cents for each reduced price lunch served. The state aid is in addition to federal funds provided to participants for fully paid (30 cents per lunch served), reduced-price (\$2.76 per lunch served), and free lunches (\$3.16 per lunch served). Because the state is paying the added 40 cents per meal for reduced price meals, Minnesota requires that all students qualifying for a free or reduced price lunch receive their school lunch at no cost to the student.

HF 1217 increases the school lunch reimbursement for each lunch served by 5 cents per meal, at a cost of about \$5 million per year.

Section

- 1 School lunch aid computation.** Increases the school lunch reimbursement for each lunch served by 5 cents per meal.
- 2 Appropriation; school lunch aid.** Appropriates an unspecified amount for additional school lunch aid.