

H.F. 1037

As amended by H1037DE1

Subject School Breakfasts; Breakfast after the Bell

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Overview

School districts offer nutritional programs to their students, including school breakfasts, school lunch, and school milk programs. Much of funding for the school meals programs comes from the federal government but Minnesota also provides additional support for school lunch and school breakfasts through state aid formulas.

Under current law, the state pays 55 cents for each fully paid breakfast served and 30 cents for each reduced-price breakfast served for students in first grade through grade 12. For kindergarten pupils and prekindergarten pupils participating in an approved voluntary prekindergarten program, the state pays \$1.30 for each fully paid breakfast and all qualifying prekindergarten and kindergarten students are eligible for breakfast at no cost to the student. A school district may not charge a fee to students for free or reduced-price breakfast. The federal government provides a reimbursement for each school breakfast served ranging from 31 cents for full-paid students to \$2.14 for free meal eligible students attending a "severe need" school.

This bill provides incentives for school districts to offer breakfast for all students in a flexible manner once the school day has started and denotes these meals as "Breakfast after the Bell."

Summary

Section Description

1 School breakfast program.

Defines "Breakfast after the Bell" programs and models including "breakfast in the classroom," "grab and go breakfasts," and "second chance breakfasts." Creates an application process for schools to apply for additional state aid for Breakfast after the Bell programs. Sets the Breakfast after the Bell aid amount for each school site as the difference between the federal funds for breakfast and the school's defined cost of providing those breakfasts.

Section Description

2 Appropriations.

Appropriates an unspecified amount of money in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to fund Breakfast after the Bell programs.

Requires the commissioner of education to compile data on Breakfast after the Bell programs and report that information to the legislature by January 15, 2021. Requires the report to identify barriers to Breakfast after the Bell programs and to school participation in the federal school meals Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) programs.



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