

HOUSE BILL 315

F1
HB 288/17 – W&M

8lr1514

By: **Delegates Hixson, Ali, Angel, Barkley, Barve, Beidle, Branch, Chang, Ebersole, Fennell, Fraser-Hidalgo, Gibson, Glenn, Gutierrez, Hayes, Healey, Hettleman, C. Howard, Jones, Korman, Kramer, Lam, Lierman, Luedtke, McCray, McIntosh, A. Miller, Patterson, Pena-Melnyk, Queen, Reznik, Rosenberg, Sample-Hughes, Tarlau, Turner, A. Washington, M. Washington, Wilkins, ~~and P. Young~~ P. Young, Jalisi, Sophocleus, and Kaiser**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2018

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education – Breakfast and Lunch Programs – Funding**
3 **(Maryland Cares for Kids Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that the State Board of Education adopt and
5 publish standards for the administration of a subsidized feeding program; requiring
6 the State to be responsible for reimbursing a county board of education or a nonprofit
7 nonpublic school for certain portions of the student share of the costs of certain meals
8 in certain fiscal years; prohibiting a county board of education or nonprofit nonpublic
9 school from charging certain students for any portion of the cost of ~~the meal~~ certain
10 meals beginning in certain fiscal years; altering the calculation for the
11 reimbursement for certain meals to certain county boards of education and nonprofit
12 nonpublic schools; making conforming changes; and generally relating to school
13 breakfast and lunch programs and the State Department of Education.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Education
16 Section 7–601 through 7–605 and 7–701 through 7–703
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article – Education**

4 7–601.

5 (a) The State Board shall adopt and publish standards for the administration of
6 the [subsidized and] free feeding program.

7 (b) The standards shall[:

8 (1) Provide] **PROVIDE** for eligibility requirements for the program[; and

9 (2) Require each county board to provide a reduced price lunch program].

10 7–602.

11 (a) There is a State Free Feeding Program.

12 (b) (1) Each year the State Superintendent shall determine the amount of
13 State money required to provide [a program of subsidized and free feeding programs] **THE**
14 **PROGRAM** in accordance with the standards adopted by the State Board under this
15 subtitle.

16 (2) The amount included for this Program in the annual State budget,
17 including any federal funds, and as submitted to and appropriated by the General
18 Assembly, shall be distributed to the county boards under § 5–212 of this article.

19 (c) **THE STATE SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR REIMBURSING A COUNTY**
20 **BOARD OR A NONPROFIT NONPUBLIC SCHOOL FOR THE STUDENT SHARE OF THE**
21 **COSTS OF:**

22 (1) **BREAKFASTS PROVIDED TO ALL STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR A**
23 **REDUCED PRICE BREAKFAST UNDER THE FEDERAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM**
24 **ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:**

25 (I) **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, 10 CENTS PER STUDENT;**

26 (II) **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021, 20 CENTS PER STUDENT; AND**

27 (III) **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**
28 **THEREAFTER, THE GREATER OF 30 CENTS PER STUDENT OR THE REQUIRED**
29 **FEDERAL PER MEAL CHARGE TO STUDENTS; AND**

1 **(2) LUNCHESES PROVIDED TO ALL STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR A**
2 **REDUCED PRICE LUNCH UNDER THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM**
3 **ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:**

4 **(I) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, 10 CENTS PER STUDENT;**

5 **(II) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021, 20 CENTS PER STUDENT;**

6 **(III) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022, 30 CENTS PER STUDENT; AND**

7 **(IV) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**
8 **THEREAFTER, THE GREATER OF 40 CENTS PER STUDENT OR THE REQUIRED**
9 **FEDERAL PER MEAL CHARGE TO STUDENTS.**

10 **(D) ~~A~~ (1) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2022, A COUNTY BOARD OR**
11 **NONPROFIT NONPUBLIC SCHOOL MAY NOT CHARGE A STUDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE**
12 **FOR A REDUCED PRICE BREAKFAST ~~OR LUNCH~~ FOR ANY PORTION OF THE COST OF**
13 **THE MEAL.**

14 **(2) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2023, A COUNTY BOARD OR**
15 **NONPROFIT NONPUBLIC SCHOOL MAY NOT CHARGE A STUDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE**
16 **FOR A REDUCED PRICE LUNCH FOR ANY PORTION OF THE COST OF THE MEAL.**

17 7-603.

18 Each public school in this State shall provide a [program of subsidized or] free
19 feeding [programs] **PROGRAM** for children who meet the standards adopted by the State
20 Board under this subtitle.

21 7-604.

22 Funds appropriated for the [subsidized or] free feeding program shall be used to
23 reimburse each county board for the difference between costs and all available
24 reimbursements and other funds[, including the amounts paid by children].

25 7-605.

26 (a) The General Assembly finds the following policies desirable in the
27 administration and application of the school feeding [programs] **PROGRAM**:

28 (1) Private organizations and corporations should be encouraged to
29 participate in the program;

1 (2) The identity of children who participate in **THE** free [or subsidized]
2 feeding [programs] **PROGRAM** should remain anonymous and positive procedures should
3 be adopted to accomplish this; and

4 (3) Applications for participants in the program should be brief and simple,
5 based on a statement of present income and family size or of participation in a social
6 services or welfare program.

7 (b) There may not be discrimination [among these programs] **IN THIS PROGRAM**
8 for elementary, junior high, and high school students.

9 7-701.

10 (a) The State Board shall require each county board to provide in each elementary
11 school a free [and reduced price] breakfast, unless the school is exempted under § 7-702 of
12 this subtitle.

13 (b) The free [and reduced price] breakfast required to be provided under this
14 section shall meet the standards of the United States Department of Agriculture.

15 7-702.

16 The State Superintendent shall exempt any elementary school from the
17 requirements of this subtitle if:

18 (1) (i) The school has made a breakfast program available for at least 3
19 consecutive months; and

20 (ii) The participation is less than 25 percent of the number of
21 students eligible for free and reduced price **ELIGIBLE** meals in each month;

22 (2) (i) The county board approves an alternative nutrition program that
23 the school has instituted;

24 (ii) The school regularly conducts an assessment of the alternative
25 program that provides evidence of success in achieving program objectives; and

26 (iii) The school submits an annual report of the assessment to the
27 county board and the State;

28 (3) (i) The school requests an exemption for reasons of a compelling
29 nature to the county board; and

30 (ii) After review and approval, the county board submits the request
31 for exemption to the State Superintendent; or

1 (4) (i) The school has less than 15 percent of its enrollment approved
2 for free and reduced price **ELIGIBLE** meals.

3 (ii) This exemption shall continue from year to year without the need
4 for reapplication, until there is a 10 percent increase in the number of students approved
5 for free and reduced price **ELIGIBLE** meals.

6 7-703.

7 (a) The free [and reduced price] breakfast program under this subtitle shall be
8 suspended if the per meal reimbursement that the federal government provides for the
9 breakfast program is:

10 (1) Reduced below the rate prescribed on July 1, [1979] **2013**; or

11 (2) Adjusted by the Secretary of the United States Department of
12 Agriculture, as of the most recent July 1 under the national Child Nutrition Act, and the
13 per meal reimbursement is below the adjusted rate.

14 (b) The **STATE** reimbursement **TO A COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OR A**
15 **NONPROFIT NONPUBLIC SCHOOL** for each meal under subsection (a) of this section shall
16 be determined as follows:

17 (1) Multiply the number of reduced price **ELIGIBLE** breakfasts served
18 statewide times the **SUM OF THE** federal reimbursement rate for those breakfasts **PLUS**
19 **THE STUDENT SHARE OF THE COST FOR THOSE BREAKFASTS**;

20 (2) Multiply the number of free breakfasts served statewide times the
21 federal reimbursement rate for those breakfasts; and

22 (3) Divide the total of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection by the total
23 number of free and reduced price **ELIGIBLE** breakfasts.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
25 1, 2018.