
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STUDENT MEALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 302A-404, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "§302A-404 School meals. (a) School meals shall be made
4 available under the school meals program in every school where
5 the students are required to eat meals at school.

6 (b) No student shall be denied a meal solely for failure
7 to pay:

8 (1) Within the first thirty days of the first semester of
9 a school year while the student's application for free
10 or reduced lunch is being processed; or

11 (2) Within seven days after a student's meal fund account
12 reaches a zero or negative balance.

13 (c) The department may adopt rules or policies governing
14 the collection of funds for student meal accounts with a
15 negative fund balance; provided that no rule or policy shall
16 prohibit feeding a student as required pursuant to subsection
17 (b)."



1 SECTION 2. The department of education shall submit a
2 report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
3 convening of the regular session of 2018 on the prevalence of
4 students being denied a school meal solely for failure to pay
5 and any actions taken by the department of education or
6 individual schools to address this issue. The report shall
7 include:

- 8 (1) The number of meals that have been denied because of a
9 zero or negative balance in a student's meal fund
10 account;
- 11 (2) The number of students that have been denied a meal
12 because of a zero or negative balance;
- 13 (3) The reasons for the zero or negative balance and
14 subsequent meal denial;
- 15 (4) Steps the department is taking to make the process of
16 paying for meals easier;
- 17 (5) Procedures for notifying parents of low or negative
18 balances, including when and how they are notified;
19 and
- 20 (6) The standard operating procedure for low or negative
21 balance notification and subsequent meal denial.



1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.



Report Title:

Department of Education; Meals; Students

Description:

Prohibits denying a student a meal for the first: (1) 30 days of the first semester of a school year while the student's application for free or reduced lunch is being processed; or (2) week that the student's meal fund balance is zero or negative. Authorizes the Department of Education to adopt rules or policies on the collection of funds for negative student meal balances. Requires a report to the legislature. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

