

2023 -- H 5141

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LC000652  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID

Introduced By: Representatives Caldwell, Potter, Carson, Spears, Speakman, Donovan,  
Fogarty, Ajello, Kazarian, and Biah

Date Introduced: January 18, 2023

Referred To: House Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 16-8-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-8 entitled "Federal Aid  
2 [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended to read  
3 as follows:

4           **16-8-10. Mandatory school lunch programs.**

5           All public elementary and secondary schools shall be required to make type A lunches  
6 available to students attending those schools in accordance with rules and regulations adopted from  
7 time to time by the department of elementary and secondary education. To the extent that federal,  
8 state, and other funds are available, free and reduced price type A lunches shall be provided to all  
9 students ~~from families that meet the current specific criteria established by federal and state~~  
10 ~~regulations~~. The requirement that type A lunches be provided shall apply to locally managed school  
11 lunch programs, and school lunch programs administered directly by the department of elementary  
12 and secondary education or by any other public agency whether using school facilities or a  
13 commercial catering service. The department of elementary and secondary education is further  
14 authorized to expand the school lunch program to the extent that federal, state, and/or local funds  
15 are available by the utilization of one or more food preparation centers for delivery to participating  
16 schools for the purpose of providing meals to students on a more economical basis than could be  
17 provided by a community acting individually.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FEDERAL AID

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1           This act would require free lunches to be provided for all elementary and secondary  
2 students attending public schools, to the extent state and federal funds are available.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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