



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 339

LCO No. 1933

01933_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-266w of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2008*):

4 (a) For each fiscal year, each local and regional board of education
5 having at least one school building designated as a severe need school,
6 as defined by federal law governing school nutrition programs, in the
7 fiscal year two years prior to the grant year, shall [be eligible to receive
8 a grant to assist in providing school breakfasts to all students in each
9 eligible severe need school, provided any local or regional board
10 having at least one school building so designated shall] participate in
11 the federal school breakfast program on behalf of [all] each severe need
12 [schools] school in the district with grades eight or under, [in which at
13 least eighty per cent of the lunches served are served to students who
14 are eligible for free or reduced price lunches pursuant to federal law
15 and regulations.]

16 (b) Grants under this section shall be contingent on documented

17 direct costs of a school breakfast program which exceed the federal aid
18 and cash income received by a school breakfast program. Eligible
19 boards of education shall submit applications, on behalf of each of
20 their severe need schools, for grants under this section to the
21 Commissioner of Education. Applications shall be submitted in such
22 form and at such times as the commissioner shall prescribe.

23 (c) Within the limits of available funds, the amount to which each
24 eligible local or regional board of education is entitled for each fiscal
25 year under this section shall be the sum of (1) three thousand dollars
26 for each severe need school in the school district which provides a
27 school breakfast program prorated per one hundred eighty days of the
28 school year; and (2) ten cents per breakfast served in each severe need
29 school. If the amount due eligible boards of education exceeds the
30 amount of funds available, the grants calculated under subdivision (2)
31 of this subsection shall be reduced proportionately. In each fiscal year,
32 grants calculated under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be paid
33 in October, and grants calculated under subdivision (2) of this
34 subsection shall be paid in equal installments in January and May.
35 Based on verification of the data used to calculate such grants, any
36 underpayment or overpayment may be calculated and adjusted by the
37 Department of Education in any subsequent year's grant.

38 (d) Each local and regional board of education participating in the
39 grant program shall prepare a financial statement of expenditures
40 which shall be submitted to the department on or before September
41 first of the fiscal year immediately following each fiscal year in which
42 the school district participates in the grant program. If the
43 commissioner finds that any school breakfast grant recipient uses such
44 grant for purposes which are not in conformity with the purposes of
45 this section, the commissioner may require repayment of the grant to
46 the state.

47 Sec. 2. Section 10-215g of the general statutes is repealed and the
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

49 (a) There is established an in-classroom school breakfast [pilot]
50 program. The Department of Education [may] shall, within available
51 appropriations, maintain a competitive grant program for the purpose
52 of assisting [up to ten] severe need schools, as defined by federal law
53 governing school nutrition programs, to establish universal in-
54 classroom school breakfast programs where all students can eat
55 breakfast free of charge.

56 (b) Applicants for grants provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this
57 section shall apply annually to the Commissioner of Education at such
58 time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. In
59 determining whether to award an applicant a grant for an in-classroom
60 school breakfast program, the commissioner shall consider, at a
61 minimum, the following factors: (1) The specific objectives and
62 description of the proposed program, (2) the cost of the proposed
63 program, (3) the number of children who will benefit from the
64 proposed program, and (4) whether the proposed program is likely to
65 increase the number of students receiving nutritious breakfasts.

66 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The Department of Education
67 shall administer, within available appropriations, a child nutrition
68 outreach program to increase participation in the federal School
69 Breakfast Program, federal Summer Food Service Program and federal
70 Child and Adult Care Food Program. The outreach program shall: (1)
71 Encourage schools to (A) participate in the School Breakfast Program,
72 (B) employ innovative breakfast service methods where students eat
73 their breakfast in their classrooms or elsewhere after school starts,
74 rather than only before school and only in the cafeteria, and (C) apply
75 to the in-classroom breakfast grant program established pursuant to
76 section 2 of this act; (2) (A) encourage local and regional school
77 districts to sponsor Summer Food Service Program sites, (B) recruit
78 other sponsors of such sites, and (C) make grants to site sponsors to
79 assist them in increasing child participation; (3) encourage day care
80 centers to participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and
81 (4) publicize the availability of federally funded child nutrition

82 programs throughout the state.

83 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) Each local and regional
84 board of education, having at least one school building in which at
85 least fifty per cent of the lunches served are served to students who are
86 eligible for free or reduced price lunches pursuant to federal law and
87 regulations, shall develop a plan by April 15, 2009, to sponsor at least
88 one summer food service program for the duration of thirty-five
89 consecutive days, beginning in the summer of 2009.

90 (b) (1) A local or regional board of education may be exempt from
91 the requirement to sponsor a summer food service program pursuant
92 to subsection (a) of this section. A board seeking such exemption shall
93 conduct a public hearing on the issue and vote on whether to exempt
94 itself from the requirement. The board shall notify the Commissioner
95 of Education no later than ten days after such vote of its decision to
96 become exempt from such requirement.

97 (2) In each year following such an exemption vote, the board of
98 education shall reconsider such exemption and shall vote on whether
99 to continue the exemption for the following year.

100 (3) If a board of education elects to be exempt from sponsoring a
101 summer food service program under this subsection, the board of
102 education may encourage nonprofit entities to sponsor the program.
103 The Commissioner of Education shall provide to each local and
104 regional board of education, by February fifteenth of each year, a list of
105 local organizations that have filed letters of intent to participate in the
106 summer food service program. If a nonprofit entity chooses to sponsor
107 the summer food service program but fails to perform with regard to
108 the program, the board of education and the Department of Education
109 are not required to continue the program and shall be held harmless
110 from any liability arising from the discontinuation of such summer
111 food service program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-266w(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-215g
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To increase participation in the four major federally funded childhood nutrition programs, as well as establish programs for child nutrition at schools.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]