

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 131

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOSLEY.

0056S.01I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 167, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to school meals.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 167, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 167.204, to read as
3 follows:

167.204. 1. This section shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "Missouri School Meals Act".

3 2. As used in this section, the term "school" shall
4 mean any public school district, public school, public
5 charter school, or private, religious, or parochial school
6 that participates in the National School Lunch Program
7 administered by the United States Department of Agriculture
8 (USDA), or such program's successor, but that does not
9 participate in the Community Eligibility Provision
10 administered by the USDA, or such provision's successor.

11 3. A school shall provide a free lunch to each student
12 who has been approved to receive a reduced price lunch under
13 the National School Lunch Program or its successor program.
14 Subject to appropriation, the state board of education shall
15 reimburse schools the difference between the total cost of
16 each lunch provided under this subsection and the federal
17 reimbursement rate for each lunch provided under this
18 subsection.

19 4. A school shall determine which students may be
20 eligible for free or reduced price lunch through the
21 National School Lunch Program or its successor program and
22 shall provide information and assistance to parents and
23 guardians of such students for purposes of filling out an
24 application.

25 5. A school shall not publicly identify or otherwise
26 stigmatize a student who is or may be eligible for free or
27 reduced price lunch. A student's application for the
28 National School Lunch Program or its successor program shall
29 be used only for federal reimbursement and for state aid
30 calculations under chapter 163.

31 6. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury
32 the "School Meals Fund", which shall consist of moneys
33 appropriated by the general assembly for the purposes of
34 implementing the provisions of this section. The state
35 treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance
36 with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may
37 approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund
38 and money in the fund shall be used solely by the state
39 board of education for the purposes of reimbursing schools
40 as provided in subsection 3 of this section.

41 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080
42 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end
43 of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the
44 general revenue fund.

45 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the
46 fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any
47 interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
48 credited to the fund.

49 7. The state board of education shall promulgate rules
50 and regulations for the implementation of this section.

51 Such rules shall include the process by which schools may
52 apply for reimbursement as provided in subsection 3 of this
53 section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is
54 defined in section 536.010, that is created under the
55 authority delegated in this section shall become effective
56 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the
57 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section
58 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and
59 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
60 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
61 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
62 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
63 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,
64 2025, shall be invalid and void.

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