

18A: 58-7.1, 18A: 58-7.1a, 18A: 58-7.2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

HJSA 18A:58-7.1a, 18A:58-7.1, 18A:58-7.2 (National School Lunch Program--participation in nonpublic schools)

LAWS OF 1977 CHAPTER 55

Bill No. A2295

Sponsor(s) LeFante and others

Date Introduced Nov. 8, 1976

Committee: Assembly Education

Senate Education; Revenue, Finance & Appropriations

Amended during passage Yes ~~xxx~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly Dec. 20, 1976

Senate Feb. 7, 1977

Date of approval April 5, 1977

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~xxx~~ (Below)

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~xxx~~

Senate ~~xxx~~ No

Fiscal Note ~~xxx~~ No

Veto Message ~~xxx~~ No

Message on signing Yes ~~xxx~~

Following were printed:

Reports ~~xxx~~ No

Hearings ~~xxx~~ No

Sponsor's Statement:

This bill provides to children attending private nonprofit schools additional State moneys as now provided to those youngsters attending public schools for the purpose of supplementing the Federal National School Lunch Program assistance.

9/1/73
M.S. 207

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[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]
ASSEMBLY, No. 2295

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 1976

By Assemblymen LEFANTE, HAMILTON, DOYLE, SCHUCK,
DEVERIN, ADUBATO, OTLOWSKI, SCANLON, KARCHER,
FROUDE, ORECHIO, BORNHEIMER, FLYNN, CONTILLO,
VISOTCKY, PATERO, MARTIN, FORAN, WEIDEL,
KOZLOSKI, STEWART and HERMAN

(Without Reference)

AN ACT concerning and providing for participation in the National
School Lunch Program by public and nonprofit nonpublic schools
and amending P. L. 1968, c. 176 and P. L. 1970, c. 309 supple-
mentary thereto.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. (New section) As used in this act "nonprofit nonpublic
2 school" means an elementary or secondary school in this State,
3 other than a public school, organized and operated not for profit,
4 offering education for grades kindergarten through 12, or any
5 combination thereof, wherein a child may legally fulfill compulsory
6 school attendance requirements and which complies with the
7 requirements of Title VI of the Federal Civil Rights Act
8 (P. L. 88-352).

1 2. Section 1 of P. L. 1968, c. 176 (C. 18A:58-7.1) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 1. Each school district***[.]*** *or* nonprofit nonpublic school ***[or**
4 authorized agency]**]*** participating in the National School Lunch
5 Program shall be reimbursed for each Type A lunch as defined
6 within an approved contract with the Department of Education at
7 a rate not to exceed the maximum amount permissible under
8 Federal regulations for the general-cash-for-food assistance phase
9 of the program. Whenever the Federal funds available to the De-
10 partment of Education are less than the maximum amount per-
11 missible under Federal regulation, the State may provide, within
12 the limitations of available State funds, an amount which, when

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

13 added to the Federal funds, will equal the maximum amount per-
14 missible under Federal regulations for the general-cash-for-food
15 assistance phase of the program.

1 3. Section 1 of P. L. 1970, c. 309 (C. 18A:58-7.2) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 1. Each school district *or nonprofit nonpublic school* partici-
4 pating in the special assistance phase of the National School Lunch
5 Program as defined within an approved contract with the Depart-
6 ment of Education shall be paid an additional State reimbursement
7 for each Type A lunch served free or at a reduced price. Such
8 rate of additional State reimbursement per lunch shall not exceed
9 50% of the total rate of reimbursement per each such Type A lunch
10 served free or at a reduced price payable from Federal funds.

1 4. This act shall take effect July 1, next succeeding enactment.

REFERENCE USE ONLY
Assembly
STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 2295

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 6, 1976

This bill requires the State to subsidize school lunches for children attending private schools.

BACKGROUND AND PROBLEMS ADDRESSED

The Federal National School Lunch Program and the State School Lunch Program operate with two basic grants—a “general assistance” grant for every participating child regardless of need, and a grant based upon individual “need”. The School Lunch Program for children attending the public schools is subsidized by both Federal and State Grants. The School Lunch Program for private schools is subsidized by the Federal grant.

Under the Federal School Lunch Program all children receive a per meal reimbursement of \$0.125. If, by virtue of income, a child qualifies for the lesser of the two rates based upon individual “need”, the “reduced” price lunch, in addition to the \$0.125 per meal, the child will receive an additional \$0.48 reimbursement for each meal. If a child is especially needy and qualifies under the Federal program for the “free” lunch rate, in addition to the \$0.125 per meal which every child receives, the child qualifying for a “free” lunch will receive an additional \$0.585 reimbursement for each meal. Thus, under the Federal grant, every child receives a per meal reimbursement of \$0.125, and those qualifying under the two low income criteria receive a total of either \$0.61 or \$0.71 for each meal.

The State grant has only a two-tier subsidy. Every child receives a per meal reimbursement rate of \$0.06 per meal, while those children who qualify for either of the two Federal rates, based upon “need”, receive \$0.08 per meal from the State grant.

Taken together, the total per meal reimbursement for public school children participating in the School Lunch Program is as follows:

1. Every public school child receives \$0.19 per meal;
2. Children qualifying for the Federal “reduced price” lunch receive \$0.759 per meal; and
3. Children qualifying for the Federal “free” lunch receive \$0.859 per meal.

The total per meal reimbursement for children participating in the private school lunch program is as follows:

1. Every child receives \$0.125 per meal;
2. Children who qualify for “reduced price” lunches receive \$0.61 per meal; and
3. Children who qualify for “free” lunches receive \$0.71 per meal.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Department of Education anticipates that an additional \$500,000.00 of State aid for private schools will be needed for the 1977-78 school year. In 1978-79, \$535,000.00 of State money will be needed for lunch programs in the private schools. This will require an amount in addition to the appropriation for the public schools. In the school year 1975-76, \$9,202,000.00 was expended of a total appropriation of \$9,300,000.00.

Assembly Bill No. 2295 permits the State to offer school lunch subsidies to private schools beginning in the 1977-78 school year.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The Assembly Education Committee removed the reference to “authorized agency” in section 2 of the bill. Since it is intended that only schools and school districts are to be eligible for the State School Lunch Program, the reference to “authorized agency” serves no purpose. Further, it tends to suggest that agencies other than schools are to be reimbursed for meals.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

APRIL 5, 1977

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KATHY FORSYTH

Governor Brendan Byrne signed a bill Tuesday which authorizes state support for school lunches in private, non-profit schools on the same basis as is presently provided for lunches in the public schools.

The bill, A-2295, was sponsored by former Assemblyman Joseph LeFante (D-Hudson).

The state support will supplement the federal assistance presently provided under the National School Lunch Program.

The federal program provides three levels of assistance for three different types of school lunch programs:

- subsidiation of paid lunches (all students) - 13 cents per meal;
- subsidiation of reduced-price lunches (student eligibility determined by family income) - 61.5 cents per meal;
- subsidiation of free lunches (student eligibility determined by family income) - 71.5 cents per meal.

The respective state subsidies are:

- paid lunches - 6 cents per meal;
- reduced price lunches - 14.4 cents per meal;
- free lunches - 14.4 cents per meal.

The \$500,000 state cost of the program is included in the FY '78 budget. The bill is effective July 1, 1977.

Governor Byrne signed the bill at St. Michael's School in Elizabeth.