18A:33-27.2 TO 18A:33-27.4 LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2020 **CHAPTER**: 6

NJSA: 18A:33-27.2 TO 18A:33-27.4 (Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal

vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures

due to COVID-19 epidemic.)

BILL NO: A3840 (Substituted for S2281)

SPONSOR(S) Pamela R. Lampitt and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 3/16/2020

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Homeland Security & State Preparedness

SENATE: ---

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 3/16/2020

SENATE: 3/19/2020

DATE OF APPROVAL: 3/20/2020

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Introduced bill enacted)

Yes

A3840

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes

SENATE: No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S2281

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

Rwh/CL

[&]quot;Ill workers now protected from being fired." Times, The (Trenton, NJ), March 22, 2020: 010.

[&]quot;Murphy signs new state laws related to COVID-19 Murphy signs new state laws related to COVID-19." The Press of Atlantic City (NJ), March 23, 2020: 3A.

[&]quot;NJ AID PACKAGE PROTECTS AGAINST EVICTION, FORECLOSURE AMID CORONAVIRUS.

[&]quot;Suburban Trends (Bloomingdale, Wanaque, NJ), March 22, 2020: A2

[&]quot;Ill workers now protected from being fired," The Star-Ledger, March 22, 2020

[&]quot;Murphy signs aid package halting evictions and" The Record, March 22, 2020

[&]quot;Coronavirus NJ: Murphy signs bill to protect sick," northjersey.com, March 20, 2020

P.L. 2020, CHAPTER 6, *approved March 20*, *2020*Assembly, No. 3840

AN ACT concerning the provision of school meals during an epidemic and supplementing chapter 33 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

- 1. a. In the event that a board of education is provided a written directive by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the district shall implement a program during the period of the school closure to provide school meals to all students enrolled in the district who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs.
- b. In the event of the closure, the school district shall identify one or more school meal distribution sites that are walkable and easily accessible to students in the district. The school district shall collaborate with county and municipal government officials in identifying appropriate sites. A school meal distribution site may include, but need not be limited to: faith-based locations; community centers, such as YMCAs; and locations in the school district where summer meals are available. In a school district that includes high density housing, the district shall make every effort to identify a school meal distribution site in that housing area.
- c. The school district shall identify students enrolled in the district who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs for whom a school meal distribution site identified pursuant to subsection b. of this section is not within walking distance. In the case of these students, the school district shall distribute the school meals to the student's residence or to the student's bus stop along an established bus route provided that the student or the student's parent or guardian is present at the bus stop for the distribution. Food distributed pursuant to this section may include up to a total of three school days' worth of food per delivery.
- d. School districts may use school buses owned and operated by the district to distribute school meals pursuant to this section. In the case of a school district that does not own and operate its own buses, the district may contract for the distribution of school meals and these contracts shall not be subject to the public bidding

requirements pursuant to the "Public School Contracts Law," P.L.1977, c.114 (C.18A:18A-1 et seq.).

e. A school district shall collaborate, as feasible, with other school districts and local governments to implement the program required pursuant to this section in order to promote administrative and operational efficiencies and cost savings.

2. In the event that a board of education is provided a written directive by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic, and the school district is unable to provide school meals pursuant to section 1 of this act to a student who is eligible for a free and reduced price meal, the school district shall establish a food voucher system for these students, in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. The food voucher system shall provide funds to enable these students to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

3. The State shall bear any costs not reimbursed by the federal government which are incurred by the school districts in effectuating the provisions of this act. The State shall maximize the waiver flexibilities being provided by the federal government to address the loss of meals for low-income children due to COVID-19-related school closures.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill provides direction to school districts for the provision of school meals to students if the districts are directed by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic. Under these circumstances, the district is required to implement a program during the period of the school closure to provide school meals to all district students who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs. Under the program, the school district is required to collaborate with county and municipal government officials to identify one or more school meal distribution sites that are walkable and easily accessible to students in the district. The bill lists possible sites including, but not limited to: faith-based locations; community centers, such as YMCAs; and locations in the school district where summer meals are available. provides, however, that if there is high density housing in a school

district, the district must make every effort to identify a school meal distribution site in that housing area.

The bill also requires school districts to identify students for whom a school meal distribution site is not within walking distance. In the case of these students, the school district will distribute the school meals to the student's residence or to the student's bus stop along an established bus route provided that the student or the student's parent or guardian is present at the bus stop for the distribution. Food distributed to the student's residence may include up to a total of three school days' worth of food per delivery.

School districts may use school buses owned and operated by the district to distribute school meals pursuant to the provisions of the bill. In the case of a school district that does not own and operate its own buses, the district is permitted to contract for the distribution of school meals and these contracts will not be subject to the public bidding requirements pursuant to the "Public School Contracts Law," P.L.1977, c.114 (C.18A:18A-1 et seq.).

If a school district is unable to provide school meals through school meal distribution sites or through distributions at the student's residence, the school district must establish a food voucher system for these students. The food voucher system must be established in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. Under the food voucher system funds will be provided to students to enable them to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

Finally, the bill provides that the State will bear any costs not reimbursed by the federal government which school districts incur in effectuating the provisions of this bill. The State is required to maximize the waiver flexibilities being provided by the federal government to address the loss of meals for low-income children due to COVID-19-related school closures.

Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3840

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT
District 6 (Burlington and Camden)
Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN
District 25 (Morris and Somerset)
Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO
District 20 (Union)
Senator M. TERESA RUIZ
District 29 (Essex)
Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM
District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Chiaravalloti, Assemblywomen Jasey, Speight, Timberlake, Assemblymen Spearman, Holley, Wimberly, Assemblywoman Carter, Assemblyman Zwicker, Senators Stack, Cruz-Perez, Pou, Addiego, Scutari, T.Kean, Singer, Brown, Singleton and Turner

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/19/2020)

AN ACT concerning the provision of school meals during an epidemic and supplementing chapter 33 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

- 1. a. In the event that a board of education is provided a written directive by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the district shall implement a program during the period of the school closure to provide school meals to all students enrolled in the district who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs.
- b. In the event of the closure, the school district shall identify one or more school meal distribution sites that are walkable and easily accessible to students in the district. The school district shall collaborate with county and municipal government officials in identifying appropriate sites. A school meal distribution site may include, but need not be limited to: faith-based locations; community centers, such as YMCAs; and locations in the school district where summer meals are available. In a school district that includes high density housing, the district shall make every effort to identify a school meal distribution site in that housing area.
- c. The school district shall identify students enrolled in the district who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs for whom a school meal distribution site identified pursuant to subsection b. of this section is not within walking distance. In the case of these students, the school district shall distribute the school meals to the student's residence or to the student's bus stop along an established bus route provided that the student or the student's parent or guardian is present at the bus stop for the distribution. Food distributed pursuant to this section may include up to a total of three school days' worth of food per delivery.
- d. School districts may use school buses owned and operated by the district to distribute school meals pursuant to this section. In the case of a school district that does not own and operate its own buses, the district may contract for the distribution of school meals and these contracts shall not be subject to the public bidding requirements pursuant to the "Public School Contracts Law," P.L.1977, c.114 (C.18A:18A-1 et seq.).
- e. A school district shall collaborate, as feasible, with other school districts and local governments to implement the program required pursuant to this section in order to promote administrative and operational efficiencies and cost savings.

A3840 LAMPITT, DUNN

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2. In the event that a board of education is provided a written directive by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic, and the school district is unable to provide school meals pursuant to section 1 of this act to a student who is eligible for a free and reduced price meal, the school district shall establish a food voucher system for these students, in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. The food voucher system shall provide funds to enable these students to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

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3. The State shall bear any costs not reimbursed by the federal government which are incurred by the school districts in effectuating the provisions of this act. The State shall maximize the waiver flexibilities being provided by the federal government to address the loss of meals for low-income children due to COVID-19-related school closures.

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4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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This bill provides direction to school districts for the provision of school meals to students if the districts are directed by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic. Under these circumstances, the district is required to implement a program during the period of the school closure to provide school meals to all district students who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school Under the program, the school district is breakfast programs. required to collaborate with county and municipal government officials to identify one or more school meal distribution sites that are walkable and easily accessible to students in the district. The bill lists possible sites including, but not limited to: faith-based locations; community centers, such as YMCAs; and locations in the school district where summer meals are available. provides, however, that if there is high density housing in a school district, the district must make every effort to identify a school meal distribution site in that housing area.

The bill also requires school districts to identify students for whom a school meal distribution site is not within walking distance. In the case of these students, the school district will distribute the school meals to the student's residence or to the student's bus stop along an established bus route provided that the student or the student's parent or guardian is present at the bus stop for the

A3840 LAMPITT, DUNN

distribution. Food distributed to the student's residence may include up to a total of three school days' worth of food per delivery.

School districts may use school buses owned and operated by the district to distribute school meals pursuant to the provisions of the bill. In the case of a school district that does not own and operate its own buses, the district is permitted to contract for the distribution of school meals and these contracts will not be subject to the public bidding requirements pursuant to the "Public School Contracts Law," P.L.1977, c.114 (C.18A:18A-1 et seq.).

If a school district is unable to provide school meals through school meal distribution sites or through distributions at the student's residence, the school district must establish a food voucher system for these students. The food voucher system must be established in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. Under the food voucher system funds will be provided to students to enable them to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

Finally, the bill provides that the State will bear any costs not reimbursed by the federal government which school districts incur in effectuating the provisions of this bill. The State is required to maximize the waiver flexibilities being provided by the federal government to address the loss of meals for low-income children due to COVID-19-related school closures.

ASSEMBLY HOMELAND SECURITY AND STATE PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3840

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 16, 2020

The Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3840.

As reported by the committee, this bill provides direction to school districts for the provision of school meals to students if the districts are directed by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic. Under these circumstances, the district is required to implement a program during the period of the school closure to provide school meals to all district students who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs.

Under the program, the school district is required to collaborate with county and municipal government officials to identify one or more school meal distribution sites that are walkable and easily accessible to students in the district. The bill lists possible sites including, but not limited to: faith-based locations; community centers, such as YMCAs; and locations in the school district where summer meals are available. The bill provides, however, that if there is high density housing in a school district, the district must make every effort to identify a school meal distribution site in that housing area.

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School districts may use school buses owned and operated by the district to distribute school meals pursuant to the provisions of the bill. In the case of a school district that does not own and operate its own buses, the district is permitted to contract for the distribution of school meals and these contracts will not be subject to the public bidding requirements pursuant to the "Public School Contracts Law," P.L.1977, c.114 (C.18A:18A-1 et seq.).

If a school district is unable to provide school meals pursuant to school meal distribution sites or through distributions at the student's residence, the school district must establish a food voucher system for these students. The food voucher system must be established in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. Under the food voucher system funds will be provided to students to enable them to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

Finally, the bill provides that the State will bear any costs not reimbursed by the federal government which school districts incur in effectuating the provisions of this bill. The State is required to maximize the waiver flexibilities being provided by the federal government to address the loss of meals for low-income children due to COVID-19-related school closures.

SENATE, No. 2281

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Stack, Cruz-Perez, Pou, Addiego, Scutari, T.Kean, Singer, Brown, Singleton and Turner

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/19/2020)

AN ACT concerning the provision of school meals during an epidemic and supplementing chapter 33 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

- 1. a. In the event that a board of education is provided a written directive by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the district shall implement a program during the period of the school closure to provide school meals to all students enrolled in the district who are eligible for the free and reduced price school lunch and school breakfast programs.
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S2281 RUIZ, CUNNINGHAM

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2. In the event that a board of education is provided a written directive by either the New Jersey Department of Health or the health officer of the jurisdiction to institute a public health-related closure due to the COVID-19 epidemic, and the school district is unable to provide school meals pursuant to section 1 of this act to a student who is eligible for a free and reduced price meal, the school district shall establish a food voucher system for these students, in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. The food voucher system shall provide funds to enable these students to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

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S2281 RUIZ, CUNNINGHAM

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If a school district is unable to provide school meals through school meal distribution sites or through distributions at the student's residence, the school district must establish a food voucher system for these students. The food voucher system must be established in accordance with criteria promulgated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services. Under the food voucher system funds will be provided to students to enable them to access nutritious food at food retail stores.

Finally, the bill provides that the State will bear any costs not reimbursed by the federal government which school districts incur in effectuating the provisions of this bill. The State is required to maximize the waiver flexibilities being provided by the federal government to address the loss of meals for low-income children due to COVID-19-related school closures.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

03/20/2020

TRENTON – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills and resolutions into law:

A-3095/S-1982 (Mazzeo/Beach, Turner) – Provides county clerks with additional week to mail ballots for 2020 primary election; requires ballot position draw to occur one day early if statutory date falls on holiday

A-3840/S-2281 (Lampitt, Dunn, Quijano/Ruiz, Cunningham) – Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic

A-3843/S-2283 (McKeon, Bramnick, Chaparro/Vitale, Lagana, Pou, Bateman) – Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing of coronavirus disease 2019 and for telemedicine and telehealth during coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency

A-3849/S-2302 (Johnson, Moen, Timberlake/A.M. Bucco, Cruz-Perez, Weinberg, Ruiz, Addiego, Madden, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer, O'Scanlon) – Modifies deadline by which public agency is required to respond to request for government record during period of emergency

A-3850/S-2294 (Murphy, DeCroce, Moen/Beach, A.M. Bucco, Weinberg, Cruz-Perez, Ruiz, Addiego, Madden, Holzapfel, Singer, O'Scanlon) – Allows public bodies to conduct meetings, and provide notice, by electronic means during periods of emergency

A-3851/S-2295 (Schaer, Scharfenberger, Reynolds-Jackson/A.M. Bucco, Gopal, Cruz-Perez, Madden, Ruiz, Scutari, Bateman, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer, O'Scanlon, Oroho) – Permits extension of deadlines for adoption of county and municipal budgets under certain circumstances

A-3854/S-2286 (Conaway, Munoz, Benson/Vitale, Gill, Cruz-Perez, Ruiz, Addiego, Greenstein, T. Kean, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer, O'Scanlon) – Authorizes all licensed health care facilities and laboratories to collect specimens to test for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); allows waiver of staffing ratio requirements

A-3855/S-2287 (Mosquera, Stanfield, Vainieri Huttle/T. Kean, Codey, Cruz-Perez, Ruiz, Addiego, Pennacchio, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer, O'Scanlon) – Requires food access information be displayed on websites of 2-1-1 system and executive branch departments during public health emergencies to the extent practicable

A-3861/S-2290 (Karabinchak, Johnson, Greenwald/Diegnan, Ruiz, Testa, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer) – Permits corporations to hold shareholders' meetings in part or solely by means of remote communication during state of emergency

A-3865/S-2291 (Chaparro, Reynolds-Jackson, Verrelli/Addiego, Bateman, Pou, Ruiz, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer, Turner) – Limits return of items purchased from retail food stores under certain circumstances

AJR-158/SJR-77 (DeAngelo, DePhillips/Cruz-Perez, Pou, Ruiz, Greenstein, T. Kean, C.A. Brown, Holzapfel, Singer, O'Scanlon) – Urges FCC to take temporary measures to secure broadband access for those affected by COVID-19