



<b>FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:</b>	No
<b>LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:</b>	Yes
<b>VETO MESSAGE:</b>	No
<b>GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:</b>	No

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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<b>REPORTS:</b>	No
<b>HEARINGS:</b>	No
<b>OTHER:</b>	Yes
<b>NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:</b>	Yes

974.90 S372 2013b

Committee meeting of Joint Committee on the Public Schools, subcommittee: the committee will receive testimony on the status of early childhood education, the School Breakfast Program and the At-Risk Meals Program [February 27, 2013, Trenton, New Jersey] / meeting recorded and transcribed by the Office Legislative Services, Public Information Office, Hearing Unit.

By New Jersey. Legislature. Joint Committee on the Public Schools. School Facilities and Construction Subcommittee.

Trenton, N.J.: New Jersey Office of Legislative Services, Public information Office, Hearing Unit 2013.

<http://hdl.handle.net/10929/26400>

“Breakfast after the bell’ rings true in efforts to combat kids’ hunger,” njspotlight.com, 3-21-14

LAW/RWH

P.L.2014, CHAPTER 66, *approved November 13, 2014*  
Assembly Committee Substitute for  
Assembly, Nos. 679 and 2186

1 **AN ACT** concerning school breakfast programs and supplementing  
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. A public school operated by a school district of the State  
8 participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic  
9 school participating in the federal school breakfast program is  
10 encouraged to increase the number of students participating in the  
11 program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program  
12 through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period  
13 classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

14 b. The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the  
15 Department of Education shall:

16 (1) make every effort to assist, guide, and support school  
17 districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning,  
18 establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the  
19 bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the  
20 school breakfast program, especially students from low income  
21 families; and

22 (2) prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and,  
23 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the  
24 Legislature on the number and percentages of students from low  
25 income families participating in the school breakfast program, and  
26 the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district,  
27 public school, or nonpublic school.

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29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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34 Encourages the establishment of "breakfast after the bell"  
35 programs in school districts, public school, and nonpublic schools  
36 participating in the federal school breakfast program.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 679

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JOSEPH CRYAN**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Encourages school districts and nonpublic schools to increase student participation in school breakfast programs.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/21/2014)**

1 AN ACT concerning school breakfast programs and supplementing  
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. Each school district or nonpublic school participating in  
8 the federal School Breakfast Program is encouraged to increase the  
9 number of students participating in the program, especially through  
10 incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom.

11 b. The Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the  
12 Department of Education, shall make every effort to assist school  
13 districts and nonpublic schools in increasing the participation rate  
14 of students in the school breakfast program, especially through  
15 incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom.

16 c. The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the  
17 Department of Education, shall provide guidance and support to  
18 school districts and nonpublic schools in the planning,  
19 implementation or modification of a school breakfast program  
20 which would increase the participation rate of all students,  
21 especially income-eligible students, in the school district or  
22 nonpublic school.

23 d. The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the  
24 Department of Education, shall prepare and issue an annual report  
25 to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164  
26 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature on the number and percentage of  
27 students participating in a school breakfast program and the format  
28 used for providing breakfast, for each school district and nonpublic  
29 school.

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31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill encourages school districts and nonpublic schools to  
37 increase the number of students participating in the federal School  
38 Breakfast Program. The bill requires the Department of  
39 Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Education, to  
40 make every effort to assist school districts and nonpublic schools in  
41 increasing the participation rate of students in the school breakfast  
42 program, especially through incorporation of school breakfast in the  
43 first-period classroom. The Department of Agriculture, in  
44 consultation with the Department of Education, is also required to  
45 prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the  
46 Legislature on the number and percentage of students participating

1 in a school breakfast program, and the format used for providing  
2 breakfast, for each school district and nonpublic school.  
3 Currently, the vast majority of New Jersey school districts serve  
4 breakfast to a fraction of eligible children. According to the Food  
5 Research and Action Center, New Jersey ranks 46<sup>th</sup> nationwide for  
6 its participation rate in the school breakfast program, and the center  
7 estimates that New Jersey districts would collect roughly \$21.7  
8 million more annually from the federal government if schools  
9 increase student participation so that 60 percent of students who  
10 receive school lunch also get breakfast at school. If New Jersey  
11 reached this benchmark, about 90,000 additional schoolchildren  
12 would receive a healthy breakfast at the start of their school day.  
13 According to experts, the percentage of students that participate in  
14 school breakfast increases when breakfast is served in the classroom  
15 after the start of school (i.e., “after the bell”). Research shows that  
16 school breakfast increases attendance and decreases tardiness,  
17 improves academic performance both in class and on standardized  
18 tests, improves attentiveness, and reduces emotional and behavioral  
19 problems among students from all backgrounds.

# ASSEMBLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR **ASSEMBLY, Nos. 679 and 2186**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 10, 2014

The Assembly Women and Children Committee reports favorably an Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 679 and 2186.

This committee substitute encourages a public school operated by a school district of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

Under the provisions of the substitute, the Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Education, would: make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families; and prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program for each school district and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR**  
**ASSEMBLY, Nos. 679 and 2186**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**216th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: MARCH 27, 2014

**SUMMARY**

- Synopsis:** Encourages the establishment of “breakfast after the bell” programs in school districts, public school, and nonpublic schools participating in the federal school breakfast program.
- Type of Impact:** Minimal State expenditure increase.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Agriculture and Department of Education; local school districts.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Year 1</u></b>	<b><u>Year 2</u></b>	<b><u>Year 3</u></b>
<b>State Cost</b>	Minimal – See comments below		
<b>Local Cost</b>	Minimal – See comments below		

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that this bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and some school districts.
- According to informal information provided by the Department of Agriculture, the department would incur some minor personnel costs in assisting and supporting school districts to plan, establish, implement, or modify the “breakfast after the bell” program, and in preparing the required annual student participation report.
- The OLS notes that depending on the manner of implementation used to establish the “breakfast after the bell” program, it is possible that some school districts could voluntarily incur minimal additional costs.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

The Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 679 and 2186 of 2014 encourages a public school operated by a local school district participating in the federal school



breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day. Under the bill, the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, would (1) make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families, and (2) prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program for each school district and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

According to informal information provided by the Department of Agriculture, the department would incur some minor personnel costs in assisting and supporting school districts to plan, establish, implement, or modify the "breakfast after the bell" program, and in preparing the required annual student participation report.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS estimates that this bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and some school districts. The OLS notes that depending on the manner of implementation used to establish the "breakfast after the bell" program, it is possible that some school districts could voluntarily incur minimal additional costs.

*Section: Environment, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources*

*Analyst: Joseph A. Hroncich  
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: David J. Rosen  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY, Nos. 679 and 2186

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 9, 2014

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 679 and 2186.

This bill encourages a public school operated by a school district of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

Under the provisions of the bill, the Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Education, would: make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families; and prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1897, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY, Nos. 679 and 2186

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill Nos. 679 and 2186 (ACS).

The bill encourages a public school operated by a school district of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

Under the provisions of the bill, the Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Education, would: make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families; and prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1897, which also was reported by the committee.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

In the Legislative Fiscal Estimate prepared for the Assembly Committee Substitute, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that this bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and some school districts. According to informal information provided by the Department of Agriculture, the department would incur some minor personnel costs in assisting and supporting school districts to plan, establish, implement, or modify the "breakfast after the bell" program, and in preparing the required annual student participation report. The OLS notes that depending on the manner of implementing the "breakfast after the bell" program, it

is possible that some school districts could voluntarily incur minimal additional costs.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2186

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 16, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Assemblywoman CELESTE M. RILEY**

**District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Pinkin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Mandates “breakfast after the bell” program in schools with significant low income population.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/11/2014)**

1 AN ACT concerning school breakfast programs and supplementing  
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. A public school operated by a school district of the State  
8 participating in the federal school breakfast program in which 40  
9 percent or more of the student population consists of students living  
10 in low-income families shall establish a “breakfast after the bell”  
11 program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-  
12 period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

13 b. The Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the  
14 Department of Education, shall make every effort to assist school  
15 districts in establishing the “breakfast after the bell” program to  
16 increase the participation rate of students from low-income families  
17 in the school breakfast program.

18 c. The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the  
19 Department of Education, shall:

20 (1) provide guidance and support to school districts in the  
21 planning, establishment, implementation, or modification of a  
22 “breakfast after the bell” program which would increase the  
23 participation of students from low-income families in the school  
24 district; and

25 (2) prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and,  
26 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the  
27 Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-  
28 income families participating in the “breakfast after the bell”  
29 program for each school district.

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31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill requires a public school operated by a school district of  
37 the State participating in the federal school breakfast program in  
38 which 40 percent or more of the student population consists of  
39 students living in low-income families to establish a “breakfast after  
40 the bell” program through the incorporation of school breakfast in  
41 the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the  
42 school day. The bill requires the Department of Agriculture, in  
43 conjunction with the Department of Education, to make every effort  
44 to assist school districts in establishing the “breakfast after the bell”  
45 program to increase the participation rate of students from low-  
46 income families in the school breakfast program. The Department  
47 of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, is  
48 also required to prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor

1 and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from  
2 low-income families participating in the “breakfast after the bell”  
3 program for each school district.

4 According to Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ), the  
5 need to provide school breakfast to low-income children is growing.  
6 New census data shows that the number of low-income New Jersey  
7 children has grown 19 percent in the past five years, which means  
8 that more children are likely arriving in the classroom hungry. The  
9 ACNJ’s third annual New Jersey School Breakfast Report identifies  
10 “breakfast after the bell” as an effective and successful approach to  
11 significantly boost student participation in the federal school  
12 breakfast program. According to the report, if New Jersey schools  
13 fed all eligible children, schools would receive an estimated \$85  
14 million more in federal funds to feed hungry children.

**SENATE, No. 1897**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**216th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED MARCH 27, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Allen, Ruiz, Gordon and Stack**

**SYNOPSIS**

Encourages the establishment of "breakfast after the bell" programs in school districts, public school, and nonpublic schools participating in the federal school breakfast program.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/10/2014)**



1 AN ACT concerning school breakfast programs and supplementing  
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. A public school operated by a school district of the State  
8 participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic  
9 school participating in the federal school breakfast program is  
10 encouraged to increase the number of students participating in the  
11 program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program  
12 through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period  
13 classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

14 b. The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the  
15 Department of Education shall:

16 (1) make every effort to assist, guide, and support school  
17 districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning,  
18 establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the  
19 bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the  
20 school breakfast program, especially students from low income  
21 families; and

22 (2) prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and,  
23 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the  
24 Legislature on the number and percentages of students from low  
25 income families participating in the school breakfast program, and  
26 the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district,  
27 public school, or nonpublic school.

28

29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

33

34 This bill encourages a public school operated by a school district  
35 of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or  
36 a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast  
37 program to increase the number of students participating in the  
38 program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program  
39 through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period  
40 classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

41 Under the provisions of the bill, the Department of Agriculture,  
42 in conjunction with the Department of Education, would: make  
43 every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public  
44 schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing,  
45 implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program  
46 to increase the participation rate of all students in the school  
47 breakfast program, especially students from low-income families;  
48 and prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the

**S1897 TURNER, BEACH**

3

- 1 Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-
- 2 income families participating in the school breakfast program for
- 3 each school district and the format used for providing breakfast, for
- 4 each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 1897

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 9, 2014

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 1897.

This bill encourages a public school operated by a school district of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

Under the provisions of the bill, the Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Education, would: make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families; and prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 679 and 2186, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**SENATE, No. 1897**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**216th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

**SUMMARY**

- Synopsis:** Encourages the establishment of “breakfast after the bell” programs in school districts, public school, and nonpublic schools participating in the federal school breakfast program.
- Type of Impact:** Minimal State and local expenditure increases.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Agriculture and Department of Education; local school districts.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<u><b>Year 1</b></u>	<u><b>Year 2</b></u>	<u><b>Year 3</b></u>
<b>State Cost</b>	Minimal – See comments below		
<b>Local Cost</b>	Minimal – See comments below		

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that this bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and some school districts.
- According to informal information provided by the Department of Agriculture, the department would incur some minor personnel costs in assisting and supporting school districts to plan, establish, implement, or modify the “breakfast after the bell” program, and in preparing the required annual student participation report.
- The OLS notes that depending on the manner of implementation used to establish the “breakfast after the bell” program, it is possible that some school districts could voluntarily incur minimal additional costs.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill No. 1897 of 2014 encourages a public school operated by a school district of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school

breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day. Under the bill, the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Education, would (1) make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the “breakfast after the bell” program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families, and (2) prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program for each school district and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

According to informal information provided by the Department of Agriculture, the department would incur some minor personnel costs in assisting and supporting school districts to plan, establish, implement, or modify the “breakfast after the bell” program, and in preparing the required annual student participation report.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS estimates that this bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and some school districts. The OLS notes that depending on the manner of implementation used to establish the “breakfast after the bell” program, it is possible that some school districts could voluntarily incur minimal additional costs.

*Section: Environment, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources*

*Analyst: Joseph A. Hroncich  
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: David J. Rosen  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 1897

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1897.

This bill encourages a public school operated by a school district of the State participating in the federal school breakfast program or a nonpublic school participating in the federal school breakfast program to increase the number of students participating in the program by establishing a "breakfast after the bell" program through the incorporation of school breakfast in the first-period classroom or during the first few minutes of the school day.

Under the provisions of the bill, the Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Education, would: make every effort to assist, guide, and support school districts, public schools, or nonpublic schools in planning, establishing, implementing, or modifying the "breakfast after the bell" program to increase the participation rate of all students in the school breakfast program, especially students from low-income families; and prepare and issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the number and percentage of students from low-income families participating in the school breakfast program and the format used for providing breakfast, for each school district, public school, or nonpublic school.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 679 and 2186, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

In the Legislative Fiscal Estimate prepared for the identical Assembly bill, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that the bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and some school districts. According to informal information provided by the Department of Agriculture, the department would incur some minor personnel costs in assisting and supporting school districts to plan, establish, implement, or modify the "breakfast after the bell" program, and in preparing the required annual student participation report. The OLS notes that depending on the manner of implementing the "breakfast after the bell" program, it is possible that some school districts could voluntarily incur minimal additional costs.