

ESHB 2610 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 03/01/2018

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.235
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1)(a) Except as provided otherwise in subsection (2) of this
6 section, each school that participates in the national school lunch
7 program, the school breakfast program, or both, shall annually
8 distribute and collect an application for all households of children
9 in kindergarten through grade twelve to determine student eligibility
10 for free or reduced-price meals. If a parent or guardian of a student
11 needs assistance with application materials in a language other than
12 English, the school shall offer appropriate assistance to the parent
13 or guardian.

14 (b) If a student who, based on information available to the
15 school, is likely eligible for free or reduced-price meals but has
16 not submitted an application to determine eligibility, the school
17 shall, in accordance with the authority granted under 7 C.F.R. Sec.
18 245.6(d), complete and submit the application for the student.

19 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a school
20 that provides free meals to all students in a year in which the
21 school does not collect applications to determine student eligibility
22 for free or reduced-price meals.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.235
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 (1) Local liaisons for homeless children and youths designated by
26 districts in accordance with the federal McKinney-Vento homeless
27 assistance act 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11431 et seq. must improve systems to
28 identify homeless students and coordinate with the applicable school
29 nutrition program to ensure that each homeless student has proper
30 access to free school meals and that applicable accountability and
31 reporting requirements are satisfied.

1 (2) Schools and school districts shall improve systems to
2 identify students in foster care, runaway students, and migrant
3 students to ensure that each student has proper access to free school
4 meals and that applicable accountability and reporting requirements
5 are satisfied.

6 (3) At least monthly, schools and school districts shall directly
7 certify students for free school meals if the students qualify
8 because of enrollment in assistance programs, including but not
9 limited to the supplemental nutrition assistance program, the
10 temporary assistance for needy families, and medicaid.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.235
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 If a student has not paid for five or more previous meals, the
14 school shall:

15 (1) Determine whether the student is categorically eligible for
16 free meals;

17 (2) If no application has been submitted for the student to
18 determine his or her eligibility for free or reduced-price meals,
19 make no fewer than two attempts to contact the student's parent or
20 guardian to have him or her submit an application; and

21 (3) Have a principal, assistant principal, or school counselor
22 contact the parent or guardian for the purpose of: (a) Offering
23 assistance with completing an application to determine the student's
24 eligibility for free or reduced-price meals; (b) determining whether
25 there are any household issues that may prevent the student from
26 having sufficient funds for school meals; and (c) offering any
27 appropriate assistance.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
31 collect, analyze, and promote to school districts and applicable
32 community-based organizations best practices in local meal charge
33 policies that are required by the United States department of
34 agriculture in memorandum SP 46-2016.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.235
36 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
2 develop and implement a plan to increase the number of schools
3 participating in the United States department of agriculture
4 community eligibility provision for the 2018-19 school year and
5 subsequent years. The office shall work jointly with community-based
6 organizations and national experts focused on hunger and nutrition
7 and familiar with the community eligibility provision, at least two
8 school representatives who have successfully implemented community
9 eligibility, and the state agency responsible for medicaid direct
10 certification. The plan must describe how the office of the
11 superintendent of public instruction will:

12 (a) Identify and recruit eligible schools to implement the
13 community eligibility provision, with the goal of increasing the
14 participation rate of eligible schools to at least the national
15 average;

16 (b) Provide comprehensive outreach and technical assistance to
17 school districts and schools to implement the community eligibility
18 provision;

19 (c) Support breakfast after the bell programs authorized by the
20 legislature to adopt the community eligibility provision;

21 (d) Work with school districts to group schools in order to
22 maximize the number of schools implementing the community eligibility
23 provision; and

24 (e) Determine the maximum percentage of students eligible for
25 free meals where participation in the community eligibility provision
26 provides the most support for a school, school district, or group of
27 schools.

28 (2) Until June 30, 2019, the office of the superintendent of
29 public instruction shall convene the organizations working jointly on
30 the plan monthly to report on the status of the plan and coordinate
31 outreach and technical assistance efforts to schools and school
32 districts.

33 (3) Beginning in 2018, the office of the superintendent of public
34 instruction shall report annually the number of schools that have
35 implemented the community eligibility provision to the legislature by
36 September 1st of each year. The report shall identify:

37 (a) Any barriers to implementation;

38 (b) Recommendations on policy and legislative solutions to
39 overcome barriers to implementation;

1 (c) Reasons potentially eligible schools and school districts
2 decide not to adopt the community eligibility provision; and
3 (d) Approaches in other states to adopting the community
4 eligibility provision.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act may be known and cited as the
6 hunger-free students' bill of rights act."

ESHB 2610 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 03/01/2018

7 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "rights;" strike the
8 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter
9 28A.235 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and
10 creating a new section."

--- END ---