

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1032

H.P. 788

House of Representatives, February 20, 2001

**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Millennium
Commission on Hunger and Food Security Concerning Child Nutrition
Services.**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered
printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative SNOWE-MELLO of Poland.
Cosponsored by Representative QUINT of Portland.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

6 **4. Funds.** The following shall must be used to pay for the administration and operation of food service programs:

8 A. State funds, gifts and appropriations for school food service programs; and

10 B. Receipts from the sale of meals under food service programs; and

12 C. State subsidy of 3¢ per pupil, with 1.5¢ per pupil dedicated to improving breakfast programs.

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18 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §6602-A** is enacted to read:

20 **§6602-A. Student participation in school food service programs**

22 The department shall examine food service program delivery throughout the State and identify methods to increase student participation rates. This examination must include:

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26 **1. Breakfast service.** Identifying creative ways to serve breakfast to avoid the need for extra staff to supervise children arriving for breakfast;

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30 **2. Food access.** Identifying local rules that prevent a student from accessing food service programs; and

32 **3. Innovation sharing.** Communicating with schools throughout the State to share information on what innovative approaches to increase student participation in food service programs are working, with special attention given to anonymity for children receiving free or reduced-price meals.

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38 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §6602-B** is enacted to read:

40 **§6602-B. School breakfast program**

42 The department shall establish by rule a school breakfast program to provide up to \$3,000 to a school to initiate a breakfast program. A school in which 20% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals is eligible to participate in the school breakfast program. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

2 **Sec. 4. Pilot universal school lunch program.** The Department of
Education shall develop a pilot universal school lunch program to
4 enhance nutrition in public schools in this State. The
department shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on
6 Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2002 on the details
of the program, including, but not limited to, program
administration, funding and objectives.

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SUMMARY

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This bill increases the state subsidy for public school food
service programs per pupil to 3¢, with 1.5¢ dedicated to
14 breakfast programs, and requires the Department of Education to
examine food service program delivery to increase student
16 participation rates. The bill also directs the department to
establish a school breakfast program and to develop a pilot
18 universal school lunch program.