



Your Support is Needed!

SB 97 (Roem)

Hunger-Free Grant Campus Program; establishment of student meal plan credit donation program

Renames the Hunger-Free Campus Food Pantry Grant Program, established pursuant to applicable law, as "the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program" and amends the Program by expanding the criteria that a public institution of higher education or eligible private institution of higher education must satisfy to receive a designation as a "Hunger-Free Campus" and be awarded a grant under the Program to include a requirement that any such institution to establish both (i) an on-campus food pantry, pursuant to current law, and (ii) a student meal credit sharing program, whereby students may voluntarily donate unused meal plan credits to be distributed for use by other students at campus dining halls or at its on-campus food pantry or to otherwise support its on-campus food pantry.

- Based on data from **November 2024**, approximately **25-50%** of college students experience food insecurity. This translates to a significant number of students not having adequate access to food, with some institutions reporting rates as high as **49%**.
- Requires grants awarded pursuant to the program to be used to support on-campus efforts and initiatives to eliminate food insecurity at the institution through the maintenance and operation of both its food pantry, pursuant to current law, and its student meal credit sharing program.

SB 4 (Roem, Deeds)

HB 96 (Bennet-Parker, Simonds, Anderson)

School Breakfast; availability at no cost to students

Requires each school board to require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to make breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal at no cost to the student.

- **In Virginia, 1 in 7 children (13.6%) live in food-insecure households.** Their families struggle with the ability to provide their children with healthy meals that fuel their minds and bodies. Lack of nutrient rich food impacts child development, overall health outcomes, mental and behavioral health, and academic achievement, performance, and participation.
- Virginia's school breakfast participation saw a significant increase in NSBP participation in SY24-25, with **388,712** students eating school breakfast on the average day.
- Ensures that all students can go through their school day nourished and ready to learn, and is an investment in students, parents/caregivers, school nutrition departments, and local agriculture.

HB 832 (Adams)

Academic year Governor's Schools; school meals

Requires the regional governing board of each academic year Governor's School to (i) either (a) require such school to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or (b) if facility limitations preclude participation in such federal programs, offer students, to the maximum extent practicable, lunch and breakfast that are of a comparable nutrition profile to meals that would be provided pursuant to such federal programs and (ii) make such lunch and breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal, regardless of whether such student has the money to pay for the meal or owes money for meals previously provided.