

KANSAS OFFICE *of*  
**REVISOR *of* STATUTES**

LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS  
*Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Chairperson Estes  
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: February 12, 2026

Subject: HB 2637 – Prescribing the procedures for participating in the community eligibility program under the national school lunch program.

House Bill No. 2637 (HB 2637) would enact new law regarding free school meals. Under the national school lunch program, a school may be eligible to participate in community eligibility for free school meals if the number of students who are eligible for free meals is at least 80% of the total number of students enrolled in the school. Under community eligibility, all students attending the participating school receive free meals.

HB 2637 would direct the board of education for an eligible school district or any eligible school in the school district to adopt a resolution to participate in the community eligibility program, unless doing so would cause financial hardship to the school district. If the board determines that participating would cause a financial hardship, then the board must hold a public hearing and demonstrate such hardship. The board must then adopt a resolution declaring the school district or school will not participate in the community eligibility program.

If enacted, HB 2637 would become effective on July 1, 2026.