

**SENATE BILL No. 387**

By Committee on Government Efficiency

1-26

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; requiring  
2 school districts to verify the household gross earned income of each  
3 student who ~~qualifies for free meals under the national school lunch~~  
4 ~~program is deemed an at-risk student; authorizing the state~~  
5 ~~department of education to reimburse school districts for the cost of~~  
6 ~~reduced-price meals~~; requiring legislative authorization to receive  
7 special assistance payments under federal law.  
8

9 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

10 Section 1. (a) ~~Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary For~~  
11 ~~purposes of the Kansas school equity and enhancement act, K.S.A. 72-~~  
12 ~~5131 et seq., and amendments thereto, each school year, school districts~~  
13 ~~shall verify that each student enrolled in and attending school in such~~  
14 ~~district who qualified who is deemed an at-risk student, as defined in~~  
15 ~~K.S.A. 72-5132, and amendments thereto, by such school district meets~~  
16 ~~the requirements to qualify for free meals under the national school lunch~~  
17 ~~program by submitting a national school lunch program application is~~  
18 ~~eligible for such program based on written evidence of the applicant's~~  
19 ~~student's household gross earned income. This section does not apply to~~  
20 ~~students who qualified for free meals under the national school lunch~~  
21 ~~program by direct certification Such evidence may be submitted as part of~~  
22 ~~the national school lunch program application or through another~~  
23 ~~method. If a student does not provide written evidence of such student's~~  
24 ~~household gross earned income, such student shall not be deemed an at-~~  
25 ~~risk student for the purposes of the Kansas school equity and~~  
26 ~~enhancement act. Each such student may submit an application and be~~  
27 ~~eligible for the national school lunch program under federal law.~~  
28 ~~Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to be verification under the~~  
29 ~~national school lunch act.~~

30 (b) *Subject to appropriations, the state department of education*  
31 *shall provide to each school district state aid for each reduced-price*  
32 *meal served to each student, not to exceed one breakfast and one lunch*  
33 *per student per school day. The state board shall determine the amount*  
34 *of such state aid by subtracting the actual federal reimbursement*  
35 *received for the reduced-price meal by the participating school district*  
36 *for the breakfast and lunch served to the student plus any amount*

1 *reimbursed for such meal pursuant to K.S.A. 72-17,137, and*  
2 *amendments thereto, from the applicable federal reimbursement rate for*  
3 *a full-priced meal at the school site, as determined annually by the*  
4 *United States department of agriculture.*

5 (c) Except as provided in subsection~~(e)~~ (d), on and after July 1, 2026,  
6 no school, school district or local education agency shall seek or  
7 implement any authorization from the federal government to receive  
8 special assistance payments as provided in the community eligibility  
9 provision of 42 U.S.C. § 1759a(a)(1)(F) unless the legislature expressly  
10 consents to and approves of such authorization by an act of the legislature.

11 ~~(e)~~(d) When the legislature is not in session, a school, school district  
12 or local education agency may notify the legislative coordinating council  
13 that such school, district or agency is seeking the legislative coordinating  
14 council's approval for authorization to receive special assistance payments  
15 as provided in the community eligibility provision of 42 U.S.C. § 1759a(a)  
16 (1)(F). The legislative coordinating council shall meet within 14 calendar  
17 days of receiving such notification. Pursuant to K.S.A. 46-1202, and  
18 amendments thereto, the legislative coordinating council may approve or  
19 deny such request or refer such request to a legislative committee for  
20 review and recommendation.

21 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
22 publication in the statute book.