

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE BILL 10

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Willie D. Madrid and Melanie Ann Stansbury

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; ELIMINATING REDUCED-PRICE
COPAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAMS; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"NEW MATERIAL] SCHOOL MEALS--REDUCED-PRICE COPAYMENTS
ELIMINATED.--

A. As used in this section:

(1) "reduced-price copayment" means the amount
a reduced-price-eligible student would be charged for a
reduced-price meal; and

(2) "reduced-price-eligible student" means a
student who meets the federal income eligibility guidelines for

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 family-size income levels for meals at a reduced price pursuant
2 to the national school lunch program and the federal school
3 breakfast program.

4 B. School districts and charter schools that
5 administer a school breakfast or school lunch program shall not
6 charge a reduced-price-eligible student a reduced-price
7 copayment for meals.

8 C. The department shall provide funding to each
9 school district and charter school that administers a school
10 breakfast or school lunch program to cover the cost of
11 eliminating reduced-price copayments. Funding shall be based
12 on a per-meal basis at the difference between the federal free
13 meal rate and the reduced-price copayment rate. When
14 calculating the amount due a school district or charter school,
15 the department shall assume that the number of reduced-price-
16 eligible students will remain at the same level as the previous
17 year. If a school district or charter school has not
18 previously had a school breakfast program or school lunch
19 program in which meals were served to reduced-price-eligible
20 students, the department shall work with the school district or
21 charter school to determine an accurate estimate of funding for
22 the program.

23 D. By August 1 of each year, the department shall
24 inform school districts and charter schools of the amounts the
25 school districts and charter schools will receive to offset the

.216567.2GLG

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 elimination of reduced-price copayments for the upcoming school
2 year. School districts and charter schools are not required to
3 demonstrate their expenses to receive funding pursuant to this
4 section.

5 E. The department shall promulgate rules necessary
6 to implement the provisions of this section, including
7 procedures for reimbursing school districts and charter
8 schools."

9 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Six hundred fifty thousand
10 dollars (\$650,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
11 public education department for expenditure in fiscal year 2021
12 to eliminate reduced-price copayments for public school meal
13 programs. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at
14 the end of fiscal year 2021 shall revert to the general fund.

15 SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY.--The provisions of this act
16 apply to the 2020-2021 and subsequent school years.