

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act.

6 Section 5. Definition. In this Act, "school" means any  
7 public or private elementary or secondary school that  
8 participates in a United States Department of Agriculture child  
9 nutrition program.

10 Section 10. Reimbursable meal or snack.

11 (a) Every school in this State shall provide a federally  
12 reimbursable meal or snack to a student of that school who  
13 requests the meal or snack, regardless of whether the student  
14 has the ability to pay for the meal or snack or owes money for  
15 earlier meals or snacks. The school may not provide a student  
16 requesting a meal or snack under this subsection (a) an  
17 alternate meal or snack that is different from the other meals  
18 or snacks provided to students in that school and may not  
19 prohibit or prevent a student from accessing the school's meal  
20 or snack services.

21 (b) If a student owes money for meals or snacks that is in  
22 excess of the equivalent of the amount charged a student for 5

1 lunches, or a lower amount as determined by the student's  
2 school district or private school, a school may reach out to  
3 the parent or guardian of the student to attempt collection of  
4 the owed money and to request that the parent or guardian apply  
5 for meal benefits in a federal or State child nutrition  
6 program. If the amount owed by a student for meals or snacks is  
7 owed and payable to a school district in an amount that is no  
8 less than \$500 and the school district has made reasonable  
9 efforts to collect the debt from the student's parent or  
10 guardian for at least one year, the school district may seek a  
11 setoff under the State Comptroller Act.

12 Section 15. Anti-stigmatization practices. A school may  
13 not publicly identify or stigmatize a student who cannot pay  
14 for a meal or snack or who owes money for a meal or snack in a  
15 manner that includes, but is not limited to:

- 16 (1) requiring the student to wear a wristband;
- 17 (2) giving the student a hand stamp;
- 18 (3) requiring the student to throw away a meal or snack  
19 after being served;
- 20 (4) requiring the student to sit in a separate  
21 location;
- 22 (5) publicly posting the name of the student; or
- 23 (6) any other action that would stigmatize the student.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
25 becoming law.