



SR1071

LRB101 20861 LAW 70704 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The School Breakfast Program has served our nation admirably since it was permanently established in 1975; and

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WHEREAS, The School Breakfast Program is dedicated to the health and well-being of our nation's children; and

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WHEREAS, The School Breakfast Program joins and has been joined through the years by many other excellent child nutrition programs; and

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing current School Breakfast Programs throughout the State to ensure that our children are provided with the means to succeed; and

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WHEREAS, Research shows that school-age children who experience hunger have higher levels of absenteeism, make more visits to the school nurse, and have more challenges than children receiving a well-balanced diet; and

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WHEREAS, Frequent studies have shown that meals provided at school not only contribute to the nutritional needs of students but also significantly increase and enhance their ability to learn; and

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1 WHEREAS, Parents, teachers, and school food professionals
2 are responsible for providing the children of Illinois with the
3 basic resources needed to grow, learn, and discover their own
4 potential in order to live happy, fulfilling lives; and

5 WHEREAS, Breakfast After the Bell programs, which make
6 breakfast part of the school day, are desirable and effective
7 ways of ensuring more students realize the benefits of
8 breakfast; and

9 WHEREAS, Offering breakfast as part of the school day
10 improves children's diets, builds healthy, lifelong eating
11 habits, and allows students to begin their days focused and
12 ready to learn; the benefits of these models are maximized when
13 eligible schools offer free meals to all students at no cost;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The Community Eligibility Provision offers
16 high-need Illinois schools the opportunity to serve breakfast
17 to all students at no cost; this provision has the added
18 benefits to schools of reducing administrative costs,
19 eliminating the collection of paper applications, streamlining
20 meal service operations, and increasing the reimbursements
21 schools receive from federal child nutrition programs; and

1 WHEREAS, More than 74 million school breakfast are served
2 yearly to students at more than 3,400 schools in Illinois;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we do hereby proclaim
6 March 2-6, 2020 as School Breakfast Week in Illinois; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That we strongly encourage all citizens to
9 recognize the efforts made by schools, their school food
10 service professionals, and school administrators to ensure the
11 health, safety, and success of our children.