



Sen. Ram Villivalam

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3643

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 3643 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections
5 10-20.85 and 34-18.82 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.85 new)

7 Sec. 10-20.85. Religious dietary food options.

8 (a) Throughout the State, students depend on schools to
9 provide nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free school
10 lunches each day. This Section is intended to accommodate the
11 religious meal practices of students in a manner that elevates
12 such accommodation over a school's compelling interest in
13 providing students with nutritious, reasonable, and low-cost
14 school lunches. The General Assembly intends for schools to
15 accommodate requests for religious meals in accordance with
16 this Section to the extent that the religious meal

1 accommodations do not impose excessive or unjustified burdens
2 on other students or jeopardize the effective functioning of
3 the school lunch program.

4 (b) In this Section, "religious dietary food option" means
5 meals that meet specific foods and food preparation techniques
6 that satisfy religious dietary requirements.

7 (c) Subject to appropriation, to meet the requirement of
8 providing a religious dietary food option as part of a school
9 lunch program, each school district shall provide religious
10 dietary food options, including, but not limited to, halal and
11 kosher food options. A school district is required to comply
12 with this subsection only if the State Board of Education is
13 able to secure a statewide education master contract and
14 provide a religious dietary food option to the school district
15 pursuant to subsection (e) of this Section. School districts
16 shall meet this requirement by offering students the
17 opportunity to order prepackaged meals made available by the
18 State Board of Education through a statewide education master
19 contract pursuant to Article 28A of this Code. By July 1 of
20 each year, the State Board of Education shall notify school
21 districts of any available prepackaged meal options for the
22 upcoming school year. School districts shall adopt procedures
23 regarding ordering, preparing, and serving prepackaged meal
24 options offered under a statewide education master contract.
25 All meal options provided by a statewide education master
26 contract entered into to purchase religious dietary food

1 options must meet federal nutritional standards and be
2 eligible for federal free and reduced-price lunch programs.
3 School districts may not be charged more than the reimbursable
4 Type A lunch reimbursement amount for any meal offered under
5 the statewide education master contract. Any meal offered
6 under a statewide education master contract may not require a
7 school district to purchase any special or additional kitchen
8 preparation equipment or storage equipment and may not require
9 either any specialized staff, other than those staff members
10 who are currently available in a school, or any special
11 certifications.

12 (d) Any vendor offering halal food products to the school
13 district shall certify that the food or food product is halal
14 and that the vendor is in compliance with the Halal Food Act.
15 Any vendor offering kosher food products to the school
16 district shall certify that the food or food product is kosher
17 and that the vendor is in compliance with the Kosher Food Act.
18 The school district may rely upon these certifications.

19 (e) The State Board of Education shall enter into a
20 statewide education master contract under Article 28A of this
21 Code with a vendor for packaged meals that meet both the
22 federal and State nutritional guidelines for school lunch
23 programs, as defined in the School Breakfast and Lunch Program
24 Act, for the purpose of providing a statewide option for
25 school districts to purchase meals that meet the requirements
26 of this Section. The State Board of Education may enter into as

1 many contracts as needed in order to provide access for school
2 districts statewide. The contract must include packaged meal
3 delivery directly to any requesting school in this State at a
4 uniform delivery cost, regardless of the school's location.
5 The State Board of Education shall notify all school districts
6 of the award of the contract as required in subsection (c) of
7 Section 10-20.21 of this Code. Upon notice, a school district
8 may purchase prepackaged meals from the contracted vendor as
9 needed in order to comply with subsection (c) of this Section.

10 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.82 new)

11 Sec. 34-18.82. Religious dietary food options.

12 (a) Throughout the State, students depend on schools to
13 provide nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free school
14 lunches each day. This Section is intended to accommodate the
15 religious meal practices of students in a manner that elevates
16 such accommodation over a school's compelling interest in
17 providing students with nutritious, reasonable, and low-cost
18 school lunches. The General Assembly intends for schools to
19 accommodate requests for religious meals in accordance with
20 this Section to the extent that the religious meal
21 accommodations do not impose excessive or unjustified burdens
22 on other students or jeopardize the effective functioning of
23 the school lunch program.

24 (b) In this Section, "religious dietary food option" means
25 meals that meet specific foods and food preparation techniques

1 that satisfy religious dietary requirements.

2 (c) Subject to appropriation, to meet the requirement of
3 providing a religious dietary food option as part of a school
4 lunch program, the school district shall provide religious
5 dietary food options, including, but not limited to, halal and
6 kosher food options. The school district is required to comply
7 with this subsection only if the State Board of Education is
8 able to secure a statewide education master contract and
9 provide a religious dietary food option to the school district
10 pursuant to subsection (e) of this Section. The school
11 district shall meet this requirement by offering students the
12 opportunity to order prepackaged meals made available by the
13 State Board of Education through a statewide education master
14 contract pursuant to Article 28A of this Code. By July 1 of
15 each year, the State Board of Education shall notify the
16 school district of any available prepackaged meal options for
17 the upcoming school year. The school district shall adopt
18 procedures regarding ordering, preparing, and serving
19 prepackaged meal options offered under a statewide education
20 master contract. All meal options provided by a statewide
21 education master contract entered into to purchase religious
22 dietary food options must meet federal nutritional standards
23 and be eligible for federal free and reduced-price lunch
24 programs. The school district may not be charged more than the
25 reimbursable Type A lunch reimbursement amount for any meal
26 offered under the statewide education master contract. Any

1 meal offered under a statewide education master contract may
2 not require the school district to purchase any special or
3 additional kitchen preparation equipment or storage equipment
4 and may not require either any specialized staff, other than
5 those staff members who are currently available in a school,
6 or any special certifications.

7 (d) Any vendor offering halal food products to the school
8 district shall certify that the food or food product is halal
9 and that the vendor is in compliance with the Halal Food Act.
10 Any vendor offering kosher food products to the school
11 district shall certify that the food or food product is kosher
12 and that the vendor is in compliance with the Kosher Food Act.
13 The school district may rely upon these certifications.

14 (e) The State Board of Education shall enter into a
15 statewide education master contract as provided in subsection
16 (e) of Section 10-20.85 of this Code. The State Board of
17 Education shall notify the school district of the award of the
18 contract as required in subsection (c) of Section 10-20.21 of
19 this Code. Upon notice, the school district may purchase
20 prepackaged meals from the contracted vendor as needed in
21 order to comply with subsection (c) of this Section.

22 Section 10. The University of Illinois Hospital Act is
23 amended by adding Section 8h as follows:

24 (110 ILCS 330/8h new)

1 Sec. 8h. Religious dietary food options.

2 (a) In this Section, "religious dietary food options"
3 means meals that meet specific foods and food preparation
4 techniques that satisfy religious dietary requirements.

5 (b) The University of Illinois Hospital shall offer, upon
6 request provided with reasonable notice, at the University of
7 Illinois Hospital, religious dietary food options that comply
8 with federal and State nutritional guidelines. After an
9 individual submits a request for a religious dietary food
10 option, the University of Illinois Hospital shall make
11 accommodations for the request as soon as the University of
12 Illinois Hospital is able to provide the meals.

13 (c) The provisions of this Section shall not infringe upon
14 or affect any obligation in a contract entered into and in
15 effect on or before the effective date of this amendatory Act
16 of the 103rd General Assembly.

17
18 Section 15. The Halal Food Act is amended by adding
19 Section 25 as follows:

20 (410 ILCS 637/25 new)

21 Sec. 25. State facility halal food options.

22 (a) In this Section, "State-owned or State-operated
23 facility" means either of the following:

24 (1) A hospital that is organized under the University

1 of Illinois Hospital Act.

2 (2) A penal institution, as that term is defined under
3 Section 2-14 of the Criminal Code of 2012, that is owned or
4 operated by the State.

5 (b) Any halal food product offered by a State-owned or
6 State-operated facility shall be purchased from a
7 halal-certified vendor. Any person, organization, or vendor
8 falsely representing a food product it provides as halal or
9 falsely representing itself as a halal-certified vendor is
10 subject to penalties under this Act.

11 (c) The provisions of this Section shall not infringe upon
12 or affect any obligation in a contract entered into and in
13 effect on or before the effective date of this amendatory Act
14 of the 103rd General Assembly.

15 Section 20. The Kosher Food Act is amended by adding
16 Sections 0.05 and 1.5 and by changing Section 2 as follows:

17 (410 ILCS 645/0.05 new)

18 Sec. 0.05. Definition. In this Act, "kosher" means
19 supervised, prepared under, and maintained in strict
20 compliance with the laws and customs of the Jewish religion,
21 including, but not limited to, the laws and customs of
22 shechita requiring the slaughter of animals according to
23 appropriate Jewish law, and in compliance with the strictest
24 standards of Jewish law as expressed by reliable, recognized

1 Jewish entities and Jewish rabbis.

2 (410 ILCS 645/1.5 new)

3 Sec. 1.5. State facility kosher food options.

4 (a) In this Section, "State-owned or State-operated
5 facility" means either of the following:

6 (1) A hospital that is organized under the University
7 of Illinois Hospital Act.

8 (2) A penal institution, as that term is defined under
9 Section 2-14 of the Criminal Code of 2012, that is owned or
10 operated by the State.

11 (b) Any kosher food product offered by a State-owned or
12 State-operated facility shall be purchased from a
13 kosher-certified vendor. Any person, organization, or vendor
14 falsely representing a food product it provides as kosher or
15 falsely representing itself as a kosher-certified vendor is
16 subject to penalties under Section 2 of this Act.

17 (c) The provisions of this Section shall not infringe upon
18 or affect any obligation in a contract entered into and in
19 effect on or before the effective date of this amendatory Act
20 of the 103rd General Assembly.

21 (410 ILCS 645/2) (from Ch. 56 1/2, par. 288.2)

22 Sec. 2. Any person convicted of violating Section 1 or 1.5
23 of this Act, shall for the first offense, be guilty of a Class
24 C misdemeanor and for the second and each subsequent offense

1 shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

2 (Source: P.A. 77-2510.)

3 Section 25. The Unified Code of Corrections is amended by
4 adding Section 3-7-9 as follows:

5 (730 ILCS 5/3-7-9 new)

6 Sec. 3-7-9. Religious dietary food options.

7 (a) In this Section, "religious dietary food options"
8 means meals that meet specific foods and food preparation
9 techniques that satisfy religious dietary requirements.

10 (b) Any Department of Corrections facility that provides
11 food services or cafeteria services for which food products
12 are provided or offered for sale shall also offer, upon
13 request provided with reasonable notice, religious dietary
14 food options that comply with federal and State nutritional
15 guidelines at the Department of Corrections facility. After an
16 individual submits a request for a religious dietary food
17 option, the Department of Corrections facility shall make
18 accommodations for the request as soon as the Department of
19 Corrections facility is able to provide the meals.

20 (c) The provisions of this Section shall not infringe upon
21 or affect any obligation in a contract entered into and in
22 effect on or before the effective date of this amendatory Act
23 of the 103rd General Assembly.

1 Section 97. Severability. The provisions of this Act are
2 severable under Section 1.31 of the Statute on Statutes.

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect June 1,
4 2024."