

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~~ **{ through direct certification or }** based on
19 written evidence of the ~~applicant's~~ **student's** household gross earned
20 income. ~~This section does not apply to students who qualified for free~~
21 ~~meals under the national school lunch program by direct certification~~ **Such**
22 **evidence may be submitted as part of the national school lunch program**
23 **application or through another method. If a student does not { qualify**
24 **through direct certification or } provide written evidence of such**
25 **student's household gross earned income, such student shall not be**
26 **deemed an at-risk student for the purposes of the Kansas school equity**
27 **and enhancement act. Each such student may submit an application and**
28 **be eligible for the national school lunch program under federal law.**
29 **Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to be verification under the**
30 **national school lunch act.**

31 (b) *Subject to appropriations, the state department of education*
32 *shall provide to each school district state aid for each reduced-price*
33 *meal served to each student, not to exceed one breakfast and one lunch*
34 *per student per school day. The state board shall determine the amount*

1 *of such state aid by subtracting the actual federal reimbursement*
2 *received for the reduced-price meal by the participating school district*
3 *for the breakfast and lunch served to the student plus any amount*
4 *reimbursed for such meal pursuant to K.S.A. 72-17,137, and*
5 *amendments thereto, from the applicable federal reimbursement rate for*
6 *a full-priced meal at the school site, as determined annually by the*
7 *United States department of agriculture.*

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

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

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