

SENATE BILL 2455

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-11-110 and Title 49, relative to school nutrition.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act is known and may be cited as the "Separation of Need Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2302, is amended by deleting the section and substituting:

(a) Each local board of education and governing body of a public charter school shall establish a school lunch program and a school breakfast program to provide a free breakfast and lunch to each student enrolled in each school under the board's or body's jurisdiction in accordance with rules promulgated pursuant to § 49-6-2303.

(b)

(1) This state shall reimburse each LEA and public charter school the cost of providing a free breakfast and lunch to each student enrolled in the LEA or public charter school after all federal funds available pursuant to the national school lunch program created by the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 1751-1769), the school breakfast program created by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. §§ 1771-1789), or another federal program have been applied.

(2) This state may reimburse a public charter school for meals provided to students enrolled in the public charter school by direct payment to the public charter school or by making payment to the public charter school's LEA for distribution to the public charter school in accordance with § 49-13-112.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2303(5), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(5) Establish a uniform reporting system for the collection and compilation of data on the administration of this part, including a report on each individual school;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2303(10), is amended by deleting the subdivision.

SECTION 5. This act is not an appropriation of funds, and funds must not be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless the funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

SECTION 6. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to the 2024-2025 school year and each school year thereafter.