



HR0398

LRB099 11981 GRL 34523 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, More than 15% of Illinoisans struggle to provide  
3 enough food for their families and more than 22% of Illinois  
4 children are food insecure, meaning they do not have consistent  
5 access to adequate food; and

6           WHEREAS, In the 2013-2014 school year, Illinois dropped  
7 from 36th to 40th in the nation in school breakfast  
8 participation; the State provided only 36.2% of Free and  
9 Reduced Price eligible children with federally-funded school  
10 breakfasts and left \$90.4 million in unclaimed federal funding  
11 for school breakfast; the State also achieved school breakfast  
12 participation rates of 70% or higher in only four of the 100  
13 largest school districts; and

14           WHEREAS, Children in food-insecure households are less  
15 likely to have access to nutritious food that supplies the  
16 nutrients required for healthy brain development; and

17           WHEREAS, Low-income children who eat school breakfast have  
18 better overall diet quality than those who eat breakfast  
19 elsewhere or skip breakfast; and

20           WHEREAS, School breakfast participation is associated with  
21 a lower body mass index (BMI, an indicator of excess body fat),

1 lower probability of overweight, and lower probability of  
2 obesity; and

3 WHEREAS, Eating breakfast at school is associated with  
4 positive behavioral outcomes, such as lower rates of chronic  
5 absenteeism, fewer classroom disruptions and less frequent  
6 visits to the nurse; and

7 WHEREAS, Alternative breakfast models, such as Breakfast  
8 in the Classroom or Grab N' Go breakfast, are proven models to  
9 boost school breakfast participation and related positive  
10 outcomes; and

11 WHEREAS, States across the nation have introduced  
12 legislation requiring schools with high Free and Reduced Price  
13 eligibility to provide an alternative model breakfast service;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The 1,376 schools throughout Illinois with 70% or  
16 higher Free and Reduced Price eligibility provided breakfast to  
17 only 45% of eligible students in the 2013-2014 school year; and

18 WHEREAS, If all Illinois schools with at least 70% Free and  
19 Reduced Price eligibility implemented alternative breakfast  
20 models and increased school breakfast participation to 70% of  
21 their students, an additional 106,726 students would receive

1 breakfast every day; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
4 encourage schools participating in the School Breakfast  
5 Program, and schools with 70% or higher Free and Reduced Price  
6 meal eligibility in particular, to utilize alternative  
7 delivery models such as Breakfast in the Classroom and Grab n'  
8 Go to provide alternative breakfast models to all students at  
9 no cost; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the importance of increasing  
11 participation in school breakfast in Illinois schools and  
12 recognize that establishing State requirements for schools to  
13 participate in alternative breakfast models are the most  
14 effective means to increase school breakfast participation;  
15 and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Commission to End  
17 Hunger's No Kid Hungry Working Group to provide the General  
18 Assembly with a report showing the impact of providing  
19 alternative breakfast models at all schools with an emphasis on  
20 schools that have 70% or higher Free and Reduced Price  
21 eligibility by November 4, 2015; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 delivered to the Illinois Commission to End Hunger.