

Legislative History: Child Nutrition

California Working Families Policy Summit
January 12, 2011

The following legislative history offers a brief overview of state legislation related to Child Nutrition.

1999

SB 1041 (Vasconcellos) – Vetoed by Governor Davis

This bill would have required all schools with 75 or more low-income students to offer the School Breakfast Program.

2002

AB 2395 (Goldberg) – Vetoed by Governor Davis

This bill would have required schools meeting certain criteria to hold a public hearing to discuss the nutrition, fiscal, and academic consequences of school breakfast operation or lack thereof.

2005

SB 281 (Maldonado) – Chapter 236, Statutes of 2005

This bill created a pilot program to increase fruit and vegetables consumption through the School Breakfast Program by providing an extra \$0.10 reimbursement per breakfast for an additional serving of produce. The evaluation of this pilot was positive and demonstrated a greater amount of produce, particularly California grown produce, taken by students. The pilot ended when appropriated funding was exhausted; the Governor and the Legislature never appropriated funding to continue the program.

2006

AB 569 (Garcia) – Chapter 702, Statutes of 2006

This bill directed the California Department of Education to identify the number of “severe need schools” (those that qualify for a higher level of reimbursement due to percentage of low-income students served) not offering breakfast and report on the feasibility of a requirement.

2008

AB 1966 (Garcia) – Failed Passage

This bill would have required schools with more than 400 pupils to offer school breakfast if the schools also qualified for a higher level of federal meal reimbursement due to percentage of low-income students served.

2010

AB 2084 (Brownley) – Chapter 593, Statutes of 2010

This bill establishes nutrition standards for the beverages served in licensed child care facilities. Specifically, unless medical need requires otherwise, it restricts beverages with added sweeteners, limits milk to lowfat or nonfat for children over two, limits juice to one serving of 100 percent juice, and promotes water consumption. These standards go into effect on January 1, 2012.

SB 1413 (Leno) – Chapter 558, Statutes of 2010

This bill requires school districts to make free, fresh drinking water available to students during meals in food service areas. Districts are able to opt out due to fiscal constraints or for health and safety concerns. A provision in the recently enacted federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 establishes a similar requirement with no opt out provision. While the state mandated requirement is effective July 2011, the federal requirement is effective immediately.