

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 235

Introduced by Walz, 15.

Read first time January 11, 2017

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Summer Food Service Program; to amend
- 2 section 79-10,141, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to clarify
- 3 grant requirements; and to repeal the original section.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 79-10,141, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
2 is amended to read:

3 79-10,141 (1) Because children are susceptible to hunger in the
4 summertime, resulting in negative health effects, the Legislature
5 intends, as a state nutrition and health policy, that the State of
6 Nebraska's participation in the Summer Food Service Program of the United
7 States Department of Agriculture be strengthened where it is needed to
8 provide adequate nutrition for children.

9 (2) To encourage participation and utilization of the Summer Food
10 Service Program, the department shall:

11 (a) Provide information to sponsors concerning the benefits and
12 availability of the Summer Food Service Program; and

13 (b) Award grants of up to fifteen thousand dollars on a competitive
14 basis to sponsors approved by the department. Grants awarded under this
15 section may be used for nonrecurring expenses incurred in initiating or
16 expanding services under the Summer Food Service Program, including, but
17 not limited to, the acquisition of equipment, salaries of staff, training
18 of staff in new capacities, outreach efforts to publicize new or expanded
19 services under the Summer Food Service Program, minor alterations to
20 accommodate new equipment, computer point-of-service systems for food
21 service, and the purchase of vehicles for transporting food to sites.
22 Funds may be expended up to the full cost of a qualifying expense
23 incurred by a sponsor in initiating or expanding the services under the
24 Summer Food Service Program, and if the funds are expended solely for the
25 benefit of child nutrition programs administered by the department, no
26 proration of the expense shall be required. Funds shall not be used for
27 food, computers, except point-of-service systems, or capital outlay. The
28 total amount of grants awarded under this section shall be limited to one
29 hundred forty thousand dollars per fiscal year.

30 (3) In awarding grants under this section, the department shall give
31 preference in the following order of priority to:

1 (a) Sponsors located within the boundaries of school districts in
2 which fifty percent or more of the students apply and qualify for free
3 and reduced-price lunches or located within the boundaries of a census
4 tract in which fifty percent or more of the children fall under the
5 poverty threshold as defined by the United States Department of
6 Agriculture;

7 (b) Sponsors in which health or education activities are emphasized;
8 and

9 (c) Sponsors that participate in the Summer Food Service Program at
10 the time of grant application.

11 (4) Sponsors may apply for grants under this section by:

12 (a) Submitting to the department a plan to start or expand services
13 under the Summer Food Service Program;

14 (b) Agreeing to operate the Summer Food Service Program for a period
15 of not less than two years; and

16 (c) Assuring that the expenditure of funds from state and local
17 resources for the maintenance of other child nutrition programs
18 administered by the department shall not be diminished as a result of
19 grants received under this section.

20 Sec. 2. Original section 79-10,141, Reissue Revised Statutes of
21 Nebraska, is repealed.