

LEGISLATIVE BILL 758

Approved by the Governor March 3, 2022

Introduced by Brandt, 32.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act; to amend sections 79-2902 and 79-2904, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2021; to define terms; to change provisions relating to the Nebraska farm-to-school program; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 79-2902, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2021, is amended to read:

79-2902 For purposes of the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act sections 79-2901 to 79-2907:

(1) Early childhood education program has the same meaning as in section 79-1101 and includes programs licensed under the Child Care Licensing Act;

(2) (1) Food means an agricultural commodity or product, whether raw or processed, that is produced and marketed for human consumption; and

(3) (2) Program means the Nebraska farm-to-school program as established in section 79-2903; and -

(4) School means (a) an elementary or secondary public school and (b) an elementary or secondary nonpublic school.

Sec. 2. Section 79-2904, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2021, is amended to read:

79-2904 (1) The program shall provide for the purchase of locally and regionally produced or processed food in order to improve child nutrition and strengthen local and regional farm economies.

(2) The program shall link early childhood education programs and elementary and secondary public and nonpublic schools in this state with Nebraska farms in a manner that provides early childhood education programs and schools with fresh and minimally processed food for inclusion in school meals and snacks in early childhood education programs and schools, encourages children to develop healthy eating habits, and improves the incomes of Nebraska farmers who will enjoy direct access to consumer markets.

(3) The program may include activities that provide students with hands-on learning opportunities, including, but not limited to, farm visits, cooking demonstrations, and school gardening and composting programs, and that integrate nutrition and agricultural education into the school curricula.

Sec. 3. Original sections 79-2902 and 79-2904, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2021, are repealed.