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LRB099 11934 MST 34204 r

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SENATE 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: (1)
7 dropped from 36th to 40th in the nation in school breakfast
8 participation; (2) provided only 36.2% of Free and Reduced
9 price eligible children with federally funded school
10 breakfasts; (3) left \$90.4 million in unclaimed federal funding
11 for school breakfasts; and (4) achieved school breakfast
12 participation rates of 70% or higher in only 4 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 breakfasts
18 have 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 being 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 2013-14 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 SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we encourage schools
4 participating in the School Breakfast Program, and schools with
5 70% or higher Free and Reduced Price meal eligibility in
6 particular, to utilize alternative delivery models such as
7 Breakfast in the Classroom and Grab N' Go to provide
8 alternative breakfast models to all students at no cost; and be
9 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 the Illinois Commission to End Hunger's No
17 Kid Hungry Working Group shall provide the General Assembly
18 with a report showing the impact of providing alternative
19 breakfast models at all schools with an emphasis on schools
20 that have 70% or high Free and Reduced Price eligibility by
21 November 4, 2015; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to:

1 the co-chairs of the Illinois Commission to End Hunger; the
2 Governor; and the State Superintendent of Education.