

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 74
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Author:	Sen. Ikley-Freeman
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Bill Analysis

SB 74 requires public and charter schools participating in the National School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program to verify each student's eligibility for meal assistance. According to the measure, schools will be required to provide a meal application in every school enrollment packet and an explanation of the application process. If the parents or guardians of a student cannot read or understand the application, schools shall offer assistance in completing the meal application. Should a school become aware of a student's eligibility for meal assistance, the school must complete and file the application. Schools offering a free meal to every student are not required to provide a meal application to every student.

The measure also requires school districts to provide a United States Department of Agriculture reimbursable meal to a student who requests one unless the parents or guardians of the student specifically direct the school to withhold the meal. Should a student's lunch account accumulate more than \$30.00 of debt, the school must make at least two attempts to contact the parents or guardians of the student and provide them with a meal application packet after verifying the student's eligibility for meal assistance. If the account reaches \$150.00 of debt, the school shall make a referral to the Department of Human Services for benefit assistance.

The measure prohibits schools from publicly identifying students who cannot pay or restrict their activities, punish, or penalize them.

Schools districts will also be required to coordinate with the Child Nutrition Division of the State Department of Education implement the provisions of this measure.

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