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AB-2271 School food authorities: federal equipment assistance grants: matching state grants. (2017-2018)



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Assembly Bill No. 2271

CHAPTER 711

An act to add Section 49571 to the Education Code, relating to school food authorities.

[Approved by Governor September 23, 2018. Filed with Secretary of State September 23, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2271, Quirk-Silva. School food authorities: federal equipment assistance grants: matching state grants.

Existing law requires a school district or county superintendent of schools maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to provide a needy pupil, as defined, one nutritionally adequate free or reduced-price meal during each schoolday, and authorizes the school district or county superintendent of schools to use funds available from any federal program, including the federal National School Lunch Program, or state program to comply with that requirement, as provided.

Existing federal regulations define "school food authority" as the governing body that is responsible for the administration of one or more schools and that has the legal authority or approval to operate the federal National School Lunch Program at that school or schools.

This bill would require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, and contingent upon allocations provided by the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, the State Department of Education to provide a state matching grant of up to \$100,000 to a school food authority participating in the federal National School Lunch Program that applies for and is awarded a federal Equipment Assistance Grant for School Food Authorities from the department in its administration of the National School Lunch Program, as prescribed. The bill would authorize a school food authority to use the federal and state grants for up to 5 individual schoolsites or to combine the federal and state grants for one purpose. The bill would require that the state matching grant be competitively awarded and align with the federal equipment assistance grant requirements, as specified.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 49571 is added to the Education Code, to read:

- 49571. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the state strives to serve National School Lunch Program meals of the highest quality and greatest nutritional value possible.
- (b) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, and contingent upon allocations provided by the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, the department shall provide a matching state grant of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to a school food authority participating in the federal National School Lunch Program that applies for and is awarded a federal Equipment Assistance Grant for School Food Authorities from the department in its administration of the National School Lunch Program.

The state appropriation shall be for a minimum of two years and shall align with the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program Equipment Grant for School Food Authorities terms and conditions, period of performance, criteria, timelines, and procurement and funding expenditure requirements.

(c) A school food authority may use the federal and state grants for up to five individual schoolsites or may combine the federal and state grants for one purpose, such as creating a centralized industrial kitchen. The state matching assistance grant shall be competitively awarded and shall align with the federal equipment assistance grant requirements pursuant to subdivision (b). Unspent matching state grant funds shall be retained by the department for one or more additional equipment grants, subject to the same requirements.