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ACR-33 School Breakfast Week. (2023-2024)



Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 33

CHAPTER 36

Relative to school nutrition programs.

[Filed with Secretary of State April 25, 2023.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 33, Robert Rivas. School Breakfast Week.

This measure would proclaim March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, inclusive, as School Breakfast Week and would recognize the importance of school nutrition programs and school nutrition staff in addressing the needs of the state's pupils.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, "National School Breakfast Week" is observed annually to promote the importance of a nutritious breakfast to pupil health and learning, and to recognize the critical role of the federal School Breakfast Program in meeting the nutritional needs of children across the United States; and

WHEREAS, An estimated one in eight children in the state live in food insecure households, meaning that they do not have consistent access to adequate food for an active and healthy life; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic challenges have heightened economic hardship among many families in the state, especially within communities of color, with an estimated 1,100,000 California children having faced hunger in 2022; and

WHEREAS, School nutrition programs provide vital healthy meals to pupils every schoolday, nourishing pupils; and

WHEREAS, Increasing access to school breakfast helps pupils excel academically and supports their ability to learn and perform, such as with better test scores, improved concentration, and fewer absences and class disruptions; and

WHEREAS, School breakfast participation also helps improve pupils' overall diet, builds healthy and lifelong eating habits, improves food security, and advances child health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, School breakfast will continue to play a critical role in keeping pupils nourished through the 2022-23 school year and beyond, and making breakfast a part of the schoolday, commonly known as Breakfast After the Bell, is an effective way to ensure that more pupils realize the benefits of breakfast; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom recognized the critical need to ensure healthy meals for all California pupils and enacted the Free School Meals for All Act of 2021 so all pupils will have access to free school meals, including breakfast, beginning in the 2022-23 school year; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, inclusive, as School Breakfast Week; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes the critical role of the federal School Breakfast Program in meeting the nutritional needs of pupils; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes the invaluable service of school nutrition staff who work tirelessly to administer the federal School Breakfast Program, even amidst unprecedented challenges; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.