
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FOR FOOD SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for
2 immediate passage in accordance with article VII, section 9, of
3 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
5 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and
6 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined
7 that the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-
8 2024 has already been exceeded by \$ or per cent.
9 The appropriations contained in this Act will cause the state
10 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be
11 further exceeded by \$ or per cent. This
12 declaration takes into account the additional general fund
13 appropriation authorized for fiscal year 2023-2024 in this Act
14 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
15 ceiling are that:



1 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
2 serve the public interest; and

3 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
4 addressed by this Act.

5 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that the department of
6 education is required to provide meal service for its students
7 and staff. The department provides approximately twenty
8 thousand school breakfasts and eighty thousand school lunches on
9 a daily basis to students and staff across the State. However,
10 the department of education has accumulated a deficit of more
11 than \$20,000,000 for its food service operations, which is
12 largely due to inflationary cost increases. In the 2022-2023
13 school year, more than eighty per cent of the department's food
14 costs increased by forty-two per cent, resulting in the need for
15 additional funds.

16 The legislature further finds that for many students, a
17 school meal is their only regular source of food for their
18 growing bodies and minds. School meals are required to follow
19 strict federal food safety and nutrition guidelines, which
20 ensure quality meals. The department of education plays a vital



1 role in the health and well-being of youth in the State's
2 communities.

3 The legislature also finds that while students and staff
4 are required to pay for their meals, Title I students are
5 provided meals free of charge. However, because school meals
6 are critical for student development, students are not denied
7 meals due to a lack of payment.

8 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to make an emergency
9 appropriation to the department of education for its food
10 service fiscal deficit and to continue to provide public school
11 students with high-quality, nutritious meals.

12 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to
15 provide funding for the department of education to cover its
16 food service operations.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
18 education for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DOE; Emergency Appropriation; Food Service Operations;
Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Makes an emergency appropriation to the Department of Education for its food service operations. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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