

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1356

5 By: Representative A. Davis  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE HUNGER-FREE STUDENTS' BILL OF  
9 RIGHTS ACT; TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO PROVIDE A  
10 MEAL OR SNACK TO A STUDENT; TO ALLOW A SCHOOL TO  
11 ATTEMPT TO COLLECT MONEY OWED FOR A STUDENT'S SCHOOL  
12 MEAL OR SNACK; TO PROHIBIT A SCHOOL FROM STIGMATIZING  
13 A STUDENT WHO IS UNABLE TO PAY FOR A MEAL OR SNACK;  
14 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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18 TO CREATE THE HUNGER-FREE STUDENTS' BILL  
19 OF RIGHTS; TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL TO PROVIDE  
20 A MEAL OR SNACK; TO ALLOW A SCHOOL TO  
21 COLLECT MONEY OWED; AND TO PROHIBIT A  
22 SCHOOL FROM STIGMATIZING A STUDENT UNABLE  
23 TO PAY FOR A MEAL.  
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 7, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-18-714. Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act.

31 (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Hunger-Free  
32 Students' Bill of Rights Act".

33 (b) As used in this section, "school" means a tax-supported  
34 kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) public school that participates in  
35 the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program.

36 (c)(1) Each school shall provide a meal or snack that is reimbursable



1 to the school under the United States Department of Agriculture National  
2 School Lunch Program to a student enrolled in the school, regardless of  
3 whether the student has the ability to pay for the meal or snack or owes  
4 money for a previous meal or snack.

5 (2) A school shall not:

6 (A) Provide a student requesting a meal or snack under  
7 subsection (c)(1) of this section a meal or snack that is different from the  
8 meal or snack being provided to other students in the school; or

9 (B) Prevent a student from accessing the school's meal or  
10 snack services.

11 (d) If a student owes money for a meal or snack that is in excess of  
12 the amount charged a student for five (5) lunches, or another amount as  
13 determined by the student's school district, a school may contact the parent  
14 or guardian of the student to:

15 (1) Attempt collection of the owed money; and

16 (2) Request that the parent or guardian apply for meal benefits  
17 in a federal or state child nutrition program.

18 (e) If a student is unable to pay for a meal or snack or owes money  
19 for a meal or snack, a school shall not:

20 (1) Require the student to wear a wristband;

21 (2) Give the student a hand stamp;

22 (3) Require the student to dispose of a meal or snack after the  
23 student is served the meal or snack;

24 (4) Require the student to sit in a location separate from other  
25 students;

26 (5) Publicly make known the name of the student; or

27 (6) Perform any other action that may stigmatize the student.

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