
ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5—ASSEMBLYMEN
LESLIE, McCLAIN, ANDERSON, PARKS, ATKINSON,
BUCKLEY, DENIS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, HORNE, KOIVISTO,
MANENDO, PARNELL, PIERCE AND SMITH

FEBRUARY 28, 2005

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Urges school districts in Nevada to participate in
federally funded School Breakfast Program.
(BDR R-208)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging school
districts in Nevada to participate in the federally funded
School Breakfast Program.

1 WHEREAS, The School Breakfast Program is a fully funded
2 federal program which has been available to all school districts
3 since 1966 and which provides cash subsidies from the United
4 States Department of Agriculture to schools that participate; and

5 WHEREAS, There are approximately 132,000 children attending
6 schools in Nevada who are eligible for a free or reduced-price
7 breakfast through the Program because of the level of their family
8 income; and

9 WHEREAS, Of those children who qualify, fewer than 40,000
10 currently receive a free or reduced-price breakfast at school, leaving
11 more than 92,000 eligible children who may not eat their first meal
12 of the day until lunchtime; and

13 WHEREAS, There are 46 schools in Nevada that do not offer the
14 School Breakfast Program to any of the children enrolled in their
15 school; and

16 WHEREAS, School districts in this State currently receive
17 \$8,844,236 annually in federal money for the School Breakfast
18 Program; and

19 WHEREAS, If each school district in Nevada provided breakfast
20 to all income-eligible children who qualify for a free or reduced-



1 price breakfast, approximately \$28,593,329 would be generated
2 each year into the economy of the State; and

3 WHEREAS, While the residents of the State of Nevada pay taxes
4 to the Federal Government to fund this type of entitlement program,
5 they do not fully benefit from that fiscal investment because
6 nonparticipating or under-participating schools do not receive those
7 tax dollars back in the form of funding for the School Breakfast
8 Program; and

9 WHEREAS, Nevada's workforce is negatively impacted by
10 generations of school children who have not received the benefits of
11 a nutritious breakfast; and

12 WHEREAS, Research proves that the health benefits of eating
13 breakfast include fewer student illnesses, fewer sick days, fewer
14 visits to the school nurse and increased ability to concentrate during
15 the critical morning hours of instruction; and

16 WHEREAS, It is a well-established fact that students who come
17 to school hungry cannot fully benefit from their educational
18 experience and are therefore unnecessarily "left behind," even
19 though these same schools are already providing school lunches;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Among the verified educational benefits of a
22 nutritious breakfast are increased test scores, less tardiness, fewer
23 suspensions, increased alertness and a greater level of classroom
24 participation by students; and

25 WHEREAS, In addition to the obvious nutritional benefits, the
26 appropriate modeling by schools of nutritious meals could, in turn,
27 decrease the current dramatic rise in childhood obesity; and

28 WHEREAS, These economic, health, educational and nutritional
29 benefits are further enhanced when one considers that the parents of
30 these children must be at or below 130 percent of the federal
31 poverty level to qualify for a free breakfast and between 130 and
32 185 percent of the federal poverty level to receive a reduced-price
33 breakfast, and the consistent provision of breakfast at school would
34 allow these parents to redirect their limited resources toward other
35 key necessities such as shelter, medical assistance and gasoline; and

36 WHEREAS, Because mornings are often too rushed for breakfast,
37 parents who are not as economically stressed could also take
38 advantage of this nutrition program by paying for their children to
39 eat breakfast at school, thus making the School Breakfast Program a
40 benefit to all of Nevada's school children; and

41 WHEREAS, Underutilization of the Program is not due to a lack
42 of funding, facilities or required infrastructure or because of the lack
43 of implemented and successful model programs, but is, rather, the
44 result of the lack of will and leadership by school districts; now,
45 therefore, be it



1 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
2 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Nevada Legislature hereby
3 strongly encourages the school districts in this State to:

4 1. Offer school breakfast in every school in Nevada that has a
5 population of over 100 students; and

6 2. Increase the number of students participating in the School
7 Breakfast Program in Nevada by 15 percent by the end of the year
8 2005 and by another 15 percent by the end of the year 2006 so that
9 the statewide participation would effectively become 40 percent of
10 those students who are qualified for free and reduced-price
11 breakfasts; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That each school district is requested to submit a
13 written, detailed progress report to the Assembly Committee on
14 Education, the Senate Committee on Human Resources and
15 Education, the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and the
16 Senate Finance Committee in the first month of the 74th Legislative
17 Session so that each committee can be assured that no child is being
18 denied the entitlement to a nutritious breakfast at school; and be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
21 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public
22 Instruction and to the superintendent of schools of each school
23 district in the State of Nevada.



