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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 7, 2016

Requesting the Office of School Nutrition Programs in the Department of Education to study the effects of student participation in federal free and reduced price meals programs on student academic performance. Report.

Patrons—Bagby, Boysko, Heretick, Herring, Hope, Kory, Lindsey, McQuinn, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Sullivan, Tyler and Watts

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, numerous studies have been conducted that show the positive effects of student nutrition on student academic performance; and

WHEREAS, many local school divisions in the Commonwealth participate in the federal School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program to provide free or reduced price meals to public elementary and secondary school students in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial to study the effects of these federal student nutrition programs on academic performance of students throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Office of School Nutrition Programs in the Department of Education be requested to study the effects of student participation in federal free and reduced price meals programs on student academic performance.

In conducting its study, the Office of School Nutrition Programs in the Department of Education shall collect Standards of Learning assessment data from the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years for each public elementary and secondary school student in the Commonwealth who participated in the federal School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program for the first time during the 2015-2016 school year and analyze such data by individual student, nutrition program, assessment subject area, grade level, school, and school division.

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Office of School Nutrition Programs by each local school division in the Commonwealth. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Office of School Nutrition Programs for this study, upon request.

The Office of School Nutrition Programs shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2016, and shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2017 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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