

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2020 SESSION

## CHAPTER 683

*An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-79.7:1, relating to school boards; school meals; availability to students.*

[H 1426]

Approved April 6, 2020

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-79.7:1 as follows:**

**§ 22.1-79.7:1. School meals; availability to students.**

*A. Each school board shall require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to make lunch and breakfast available pursuant to such programs to any student who requests such a meal, regardless of whether such student has the money to pay for the meal or owes money for meals previously provided, unless the student's parent has provided written permission to the school board to withhold such a meal from the student.*

*B. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the ability of a school board to collect payment for meals provided pursuant to subsection A, provided, however, that no such school board shall utilize a nongovernmental third-party debt collector to collect on such debt.*

**2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2021.**