

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

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

4 [H 1426]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-79.7:1 as follows:**8 **§ 22.1-79.7:1. School meals; availability to students.**

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

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

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

ENROLLED

HB1426ER