



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 895

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 7273

House of Representatives, May 12, 2025

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through REP. HORN of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY WAYS TO FUND A UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working
2 group to study ways to fund a universal free school meals program that
3 would assist public schools to provide free breakfasts and lunches to all
4 public school students. The study shall examine (1) the amount of
5 funding projected to be required for such program, (2) possible sources
6 for funding, including, but not limited to, the imposition of a dedicated
7 tax or fee, (3) the parameters for the establishment of such program and
8 for disbursement of funds, and (4) any other matters relevant to the
9 establishment or funding of such program.

10 (b) The working group shall consist of (1) the chairpersons of the joint
11 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
12 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, education, children
13 and public health, (2) representatives of public schools and local or

14 regional boards of education, (3) public health or nutrition experts, and
15 (4) any other individuals or entities the chairpersons deem desirable or
16 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

17 (c) The chairpersons of said joint standing committees shall jointly
18 schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not
19 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

20 (d) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
21 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance,
22 revenue and bonding shall serve as administrative staff of the working
23 group.

24 (e) Not later than January 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a
25 report on its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly,
26 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
27 The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such
28 report or January 1, 2026, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

FIN *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill has no fiscal impact by establishing a working group to study ways to fund a universal free school meals program. It is anticipated that the members of the working group will have the expertise necessary to complete the study.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7273

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY WAYS TO
FUND A UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM.***

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 37 Nay 15 (04/24/2025)