Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

Introduced by
Representatives Hager, Adams, P. Anderson, Buffalo, Mock, Schneider
Senators Bakke, Hogan, Mathern

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of public instruction to providegrants to schools for breakfast and lunch for students.for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding public school nutritional resources.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

-SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - INTENT - LEGACY FUND-EARNINGS. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwiseappropriated, the sum of $\$ 89,500,000$, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to thedepartment of public instruction for the purpose of providing grants to school districts to defray the expenses of providing breakfast and lunch, free of charge, for all students, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023. The department of public instruction shall develop guidelines and reporting requirements for the grants. It is the intent of the sixty-seventh legistative assembly that the funds appropriated from the general fund be derived from legacy fund earnings transferred to the general fund during the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021.

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - PUBLIC SCHOOL NUTRITIONAL RESOURCES.

1. During the 2021-22 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying public school nutritional resources, including the potential options of providing breakfast or lunch, free of charge, for all public school students. The study must include:
a. An evaluation of the usage, participation, and effectiveness of the federal free and reduced lunch program for students attending public schools in the state;
b. A review of the cost of living, income and poverty guidelines across districts and regions of the state, and other factors the legislative management deems appropriate;

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c. A comparison of North Dakota laws and other state laws regarding school nutritional services and funding;
d. A review of the potential to use local and state products in school lunch programs and public-private partnerships; and
e. A review of the stigma associated with participating in the free and reduced lunch program and investigate opportunities to address hunger and food insecurity of students attending public school in the state.
2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-eighth legislative assembly.

