



January 5, 2018

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 3**

DIGEST OF RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign the topic of reducing overt identification of free and reduced price lunch students through alternate charge and meal policies of local education agencies to the appropriate committee.

Siegrist, Frye R, Olthoff, Wright

January 4, 2018, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

HC 3—HC 1007/DI 110



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1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the legislative
2 council to assign the topic of reducing overt identification of
3 free and reduced price lunch students through alternate charge
4 and meal policies of local education agencies to the appropriate
5 committee.

6 *Whereas, Behavioral, emotional, mental health, and*
7 *academic problems are more prevalent among children and*
8 *adolescents struggling with hunger, school nutrition is essential*
9 *to the growth and development of Hoosier school age children;*

10 *Whereas, The National School Lunch Program is a federally*
11 *assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit*
12 *private schools and residential care institutions;*

13 *Whereas, The National School Lunch Program provides*
14 *nutritionally balanced, low cost or free lunches to over 30*
15 *million children each school day;*

16 *Whereas, The National School Lunch Program was*
17 *established under the Richard B. Russell National School*
18 *Lunch Act and signed into law by President Harry Truman in*
19 *1946;*

20 *Whereas, The National School Lunch Program is critical to*
21 *students' health and school performance;*

22 *Whereas, Overt identification is any action that may result in*
23 *a child being recognized as eligible to receive or certified for*
24 *free or reduced price school meals;*



1 *Whereas, Students would often rather go without an adequate*
2 *meal than be identified by their peers as being a free or*
3 *reduced price lunch student;*

4 *Whereas, Although overt identification is prohibited under*
5 *state and federal law, it often unintentionally occurs in schools,*
6 *either causing students to skip meals they need to be*
7 *academically successful or to feel shame for accepting a public*
8 *benefit;*

9 *Whereas, The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010*
10 *required the United States Department of Agriculture to*
11 *examine and report on current charge and alternate meal*
12 *policies and practices of state and local educational agencies*
13 *in an effort to prevent the overt identification of students*
14 *receiving free or reduced price meal benefits;*

15 *Whereas, The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act also required*
16 *the United States Department of Agriculture to report on the*
17 *feasibility of establishing national standards for such policies*
18 *and, if applicable, to make recommendations for*
19 *implementation;*

20 *Whereas, The report included questions about charge and*
21 *alternate meal policies in a multiyear, nationally representative*
22 *study;*

23 *Whereas, The study resulted in the publication of the 2017*
24 *Edition of Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven*
25 *Strategies from Our Nation's Schools, a best practice guide*
26 *designed to support state agencies and local program operators*
27 *in their efforts to find workable solutions to the challenge of*
28 *unpaid meal charges;*

29 *Whereas, Education stakeholders could build upon this best*
30 *practice guide with further state level analysis in an effort to*
31 *further reduce overt identification, increase the use of free and*
32 *reduced price meal benefits and, ultimately, to increase the*
33 *health and performance of Hoosier students:*

34 *Therefore,*



1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives*
2 *of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,*
3 *the Senate concurring:*

4 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign
5 the topic of reducing overt identification of free and reduced
6 price lunch students through alternate charge and meal policies
7 of local education agencies to the appropriate committee.

