

By Representative Greenstein

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to summer food service for
 3 children; creating s. 228.197, F.S.; creating
 4 the "Children's Summer Nutrition Act";
 5 requiring the Department of Education to
 6 develop a plan for providing access to the
 7 federal Summer Food Service Program; requiring
 8 specified elementary schools to participate in
 9 the program; authorizing a waiver under certain
 10 circumstances; providing responsibilities of
 11 superintendents of schools, school districts,
 12 and the department; providing an effective
 13 date.

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 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 17 Section 1. Section 228.197, Florida Statutes, is
 18 created to read:

19 228.197 Children's Summer Nutrition Act.--

20 (1) This section may be cited as the "Children's
 21 Summer Nutrition Act."

22 (2) The Food and Nutrition Management Section of the
 23 Department of Education shall develop a plan to ensure that,
 24 by the summer of 2003, children living near elementary schools
 25 in which 50 percent or more of the children are eligible for
 26 free or reduced-price school meals will have access to the
 27 federal Summer Food Service Program. The department shall
 28 designate a member of its administrative staff to coordinate
 29 the activities required by this section.

30 (3) The plan shall require participation in the Summer
 31 Food Service Program, which must operate for at least 40 days

1 during the summer months, by each elementary school in which
2 at least 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or
3 reduced-price school meals during the school year. The
4 department shall use the October school indicator report on
5 free and reduced-price school meal eligibility to determine
6 those elementary schools in each school district that meet the
7 criteria of this subsection. The department shall provide such
8 information to each superintendent of schools by November 30
9 of each year.

10 (4) The superintendent of schools in each school
11 district shall have responsibility for implementation of the
12 plan for participation in the Summer Food Service Program. By
13 February 28 of each year, the school district shall indicate
14 to the department its intent to participate in the Summer Food
15 Service Program during the summer of that year in each of its
16 eligible elementary schools or in another facility within 5
17 miles of an eligible school or shall request from the
18 department a waiver of such requirement. A waiver may be
19 granted by the department if a school district can demonstrate
20 that an alternate provider already sponsors the Summer Food
21 Service Program within a 5-mile radius of the school for 40
22 days or that the school is participating in the National
23 School Lunch Program during the summer months. Such a waiver
24 shall be valid for a period of 1 year. A school's
25 participation in the Summer Food Service Program may include
26 sponsoring, hosting, or vending with the program.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Creates the "Children's Summer Nutrition Act," which requires the Department of Education to develop a plan to ensure that eligible children have access to the federal Summer Food Service Program. Requires specified elementary schools to participate in the program. Authorizes a waiver if certain conditions are met. Provides responsibilities of superintendents of schools, school districts, and the department.