

By Senator Farmer

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to food pantries in public schools;
3 creating s. 1006.064, F.S.; authorizing school
4 districts to adopt a policy to allow schools to create
5 food pantry programs in collaboration with nonprofit
6 organizations; authorizing school districts to provide
7 food from the pantry at no cost to students under
8 specified circumstances; providing specifications for
9 food donated to the pantry; authorizing school
10 employees to prepare and distribute donated food;
11 authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt
12 rules; providing an effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. Section 1006.064, Florida Statutes, is created
17 to read:

18 1006.064 School food pantries.—

19 (1) (a) Each school district may adopt a policy to allow any
20 school within its district to create a food pantry program in
21 collaboration with a nonprofit organization designated by the
22 school. Donations to the pantry program must be made through a
23 representative of the nonprofit organization who is directly
24 affiliated with the school, which may include any instructional
25 personnel as defined in s. 1012.01, or a parent of a student
26 enrolled in the school. The nonprofit organization shall manage
27 the pantry program on behalf of the school.

28 (b) Through a pantry program, a school district may provide
29 donated food at no cost to a student for breakfast, lunch, or

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30 dinner meals or provide a snack if the student is unable to
31 purchase breakfast, lunch, or dinner meals or a snack.

32 (2) (a) Food donated to a pantry program must be received,
33 stored, and distributed on school grounds.

34 (b) Food donated by the school to the pantry program may
35 include:

36 1. Surplus food prepared for breakfast, lunch, or dinner
37 meals or a snack to be served at the school cafeteria, subject
38 to any applicable local, state, and federal requirements; and

39 2. Food donated to the school through a food drive or
40 similar event.

41 (c) Food donated under this section may only include:

42 1. Packaged or unpackaged, unserved food;

43 2. Packaged, served food if the packaging is in good
44 condition;

45 3. Whole, uncut produce;

46 4. Wrapped, raw produce; or

47 5. Unpeeled fruit required to be peeled before consumption.

48 (3) Food donated to a pantry program under this section may
49 be distributed to students at the school at any time. A school
50 employee may prepare and distribute food as a volunteer for the
51 nonprofit organization.

52 (4) The State Board of Education may adopt rules as
53 necessary to implement this section.

54 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.