

By Senator Rodriguez

40-00927A-23

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to school nutrition program
3 requirements; amending s. 595.405, F.S.; requiring
4 school districts, upon the request of a certain
5 student or his or her parent or guardian, to provide
6 certain alternative meals and snacks to students;
7 providing cost requirements for such meals and snacks;
8 authorizing that such request be made at the beginning
9 of each semester; requiring school districts to
10 publish information about such alternative snacks and
11 meals on their websites; providing an effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 595.405,
16 Florida Statutes, to read:

17 595.405 School nutrition program requirements.—

18 (9) Upon the request of a student who is eligible for free
19 or reduced-price meals or snacks under the National School Lunch
20 Program or any other program, or upon the request of his or her
21 parent or guardian, a school district must provide the student
22 with a plant-based, kosher, or halal meal or snack that complies
23 with federal nutrition mandates at the same cost to the student
24 as a non-plant-based, non-kosher, or non-halal meal or snack.
25 Each school district must offer at least one plant-based,
26 kosher, or halal meal or snack for every two non-plant-based,
27 non-kosher, or non-halal meals or snacks offered. The request by
28 such student or his or her parent or guardian for an alternative
29 meal or snack may be made at the beginning of each semester.

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30 Each school district must publish information about meal and
31 snack alternatives on its website.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.