

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to food waste reduction; creating s.  
3       1013.121, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education  
4       to develop a specified policy; requiring school  
5       districts to adopt the policy within a specified  
6       timeframe; providing requirements for the policy;  
7       requiring each participating school district to submit  
8       a report to the department by a specified date;  
9       providing requirements for the report; providing an  
10      effective date.

11  
12   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

13  
14           **Section 1.   Section 1013.121, Florida Statutes, is created**  
15 **to read:**

16       1013.121   School food and plastic waste reduction.—

17       (1)   The Department of Education shall develop a policy to  
18 be adopted by 25 percent of school districts in this state by  
19 the beginning of the 2027-2028 school year and to be adopted by  
20 100 percent of school districts in this state by the beginning  
21 of the 2029-2030 school year, which requires all of the  
22 following:

23       (a)   A partnership with a local nonprofit organization or  
24 food bank to redistribute edible cafeteria food and divert  
25 organic food waste to a composting program.

26        (b) Installation of a sorting system for cafeteria waste,  
27 subject to legislative appropriation.

28        (c) Gradual elimination of single-use plastics by  
29 replacing them with reusable or compostable alternatives,  
30 subject to legislative appropriation.

31        (2) Each participating school district shall submit an  
32 annual report to the department by the end of each school year  
33 which includes all of the following:

34            (a) Total quantity by weight of cafeteria food donated.

35            (b) Total quantity by weight of organic food waste  
36 diverted to a composting program.

37            (c) Total quantity of single-use plastic items eliminated.

38            (d) Cost savings realized by the school district.

39            (e) Any barriers encountered and recommendations for the  
40 policy.

41        **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.