

CS/SB 140 — School Food Service Programs

by Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee and Senators Siplin, Rich, Gaetz, Bullard, Lawson, Wilson, Smith, and Hill

The bill creates a program within the Department of Education (DOE) which requires DOE to work with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOACS) to recommend policies relating to school food services which encourage:

- School districts to buy fresh and high-quality foods grown in this state when feasible;
- Farmers in this state to sell their products to schools in this state;
- School districts to make reasonable efforts to select foods based on a preference for those that have maximum nutritional content; and
- School districts to demonstrate a preference for competitively priced organic food products.

The bill also requires DOE to provide guidance about the benefits of fresh food products from farms in this state.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2010.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 116-0