**153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
**FISCAL NOTE**

| | |
|---|---|
| **BILL:** | **HOUSE BILL NO. 66** |
| **SPONSOR:** | **Representative S. Moore** |
| **DESCRIPTION:** | **AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE FREE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM.** |

## Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.

2. This Act requires all schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students. This Act requires that the Department of Education reimburse schools for the difference between the federal reimbursement rate for paid meals and free meals.

3. Upon enactment, one breakfast for one student is estimated to cost the State $1.98. One severe need breakfast for one student is estimated to cost the State $2.45 Approximately 935,553 breakfasts are expected to be served and approximately 3,439,240 severe need breakfasts are expected to be served in Delaware schools during the 2024-2025 school year.

4. Upon enactment, one lunch for one student is estimated to cost the State $4.01. Approximately 8,393,220 lunches are expected to be served in Delaware schools during the 2024-2025 school year.

5. Overall meals served are assumed to increase at an annual rate of 2.0%. The difference between the federal reimbursement rate for paid meals and free meals is assumed to increase at an annual rate of 2.0%.

6. This analysis assumes no change in federal reimbursement rates.

## Cost:

| | Breakfast Cost | Lunch Cost | Total Cost |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fiscal Year 2026:** | $10,521,886 | $35,016,547 | $45,538,434 |
| **Fiscal Year 2027:** | $10,771,639 | $36,431,216 | $47,202,855 |
| **Fiscal Year 2028:** | $11,027,976 | $37,903,037 | $48,931,013 |

Prepared by Kiley Thomson
Office of the Controller General