

Date of Hearing: March 2, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
ACR 135 (Patel) – As Introduced February 12, 2026

SUBJECT: School Breakfast Week.

SUMMARY: Proclaims March 2, 2026, to March 6, 2026, inclusive, as School Breakfast Week. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Nearly one in six California children live in food insecure households, meaning they do not have consistent access to adequate food. California ranks 39th in the nation in school breakfast participation, and only 34 percent of pupils who qualify for free or reduced-price school meals are eating school breakfast.
- 2) More than 66 percent of California public school pupils qualify for free or reduced-price school meals, yet many of those low-income pupils are not eating the nutritious school breakfast offered due to barriers such as social stigma, late buses or carpools, long cafeteria lines, and tight class schedules.
- 3) Eating breakfast as part of the school day is associated with positive pupil behavioral health and academic performances, such as better test score results, improved concentration in class, lower rates of chronic absenteeism, fewer classroom disruptions, and less frequent visits to the school nurse.
- 4) Breakfast After the Bell programs, such as breakfast in the classroom, grab and go breakfast, and second chance breakfast, are proven meal delivery methods that boost school breakfast participation and related positive outcomes.
- 5) State investments play an increasingly critical role in preventing pupils from falling through the cracks and in ensuring consistent access to healthy meals.
- 6) States across the nation have introduced legislation to require that schools with a high percentage of pupils who are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals implement a Breakfast After the Bell program.
- 7) If California schools increased school breakfast participation such that 50 percent of the pupils who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch participated in their school's breakfast program, an additional 558,903 pupils would receive breakfast every day.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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