

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of HB 2964

Relating to Eliminating Lunch Copays for Students Who Qualify for Reduced-Price Lunches (2015-2016 Legislative Sessions)

Evidence indicates that HB 2964 has potential to increase the number of low-income students who eat lunch, which in turn has potential to improve students' diet quality, to improve educational outcomes, to improve earning potential, and to decrease health disparities.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Representatives Gregerson, Santos, Peterson, Rossetti, Kuderer, Stanford, Hudgins, Ormsby, Frame, and Bergquist

Summary of Bill:

- Eliminates the reduced-price lunch copay for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade in school districts with a school lunch program.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence regarding the provisions in HB 2964:

- A fair amount of evidence that eliminating school lunch copays for reduced-price lunches would likely increase the number of low-income students who eat lunch as a part of the National School Lunch Program in Washington.
- Strong evidence that increasing the number of low-income students who participate in the National School Lunch Program and eat lunch in Washington would likely improve nutrition and diet quality for these students.
- Very strong evidence that improving nutrition and diet quality for students would likely improve educational outcomes.
- Very strong evidence that improving nutrition and diet quality for students would likely improve health outcomes for these students and decrease health disparities.
- Very strong evidence that improving educational outcomes would likely improve educational attainment.
- Very strong evidence that improving educational attainment would likely improve earning potential.
- Very strong evidence that improving educational attainment would likely decrease health disparities.
- Very strong evidence that improving earning potential would likely decrease health disparities.

FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review:

<http://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/2016-09-HB2964.pdf>

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