

# Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of HB 1342

## Eliminating lunch copays for students who qualify for reduced-price lunches (2021 Legislative Session)

**Evidence indicates that HB 1342 has the potential to increase the number of students with low-incomes who eat lunch, which in turn has the potential to improve students' diet quality, educational outcomes, and earning potential; improve health outcomes; and decrease health inequities.**

### BILL INFORMATION

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**Sponsors:** Berg, Gregerson, Berry, Wicks, Chopp, Valdez, Morgan, Sells, Fitzgibbon, Orwall, Santos, Ryu, Peterson, Rude, Maycumber, Shewmake, Stokesbary, Ormsby, Lovick, Stonier, Bergquist, Bateman, Lekanoff, Callan, Frame, Riccelli, Pollet, Harris-Talley

#### Summary of Bill:

- Eliminates school lunch co-pays for students in prekindergarten through twelfth grade who qualify for reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch Program.

### HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

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#### Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence regarding the provisions in HB 1342:

- **A fair amount of evidence** that eliminating school lunch copays would likely increase the number of students with low-incomes who eat lunch as a part of the National School Lunch Program in Washington State.
- **Strong evidence** that increasing the number of students with low-incomes who eat lunch as part of the National School Lunch Program in Washington State 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 inequities.
- **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 improve health outcomes and decrease health inequities.
- **Very strong evidence** that improving earning potential would likely improve health outcomes and decrease health inequities.

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Governor's Interagency Council  
on Health Disparities

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### **(2021 Legislative Session)**

#### **FULL REVIEW**

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

<https://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2021-07-HB1342.pdf>

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