



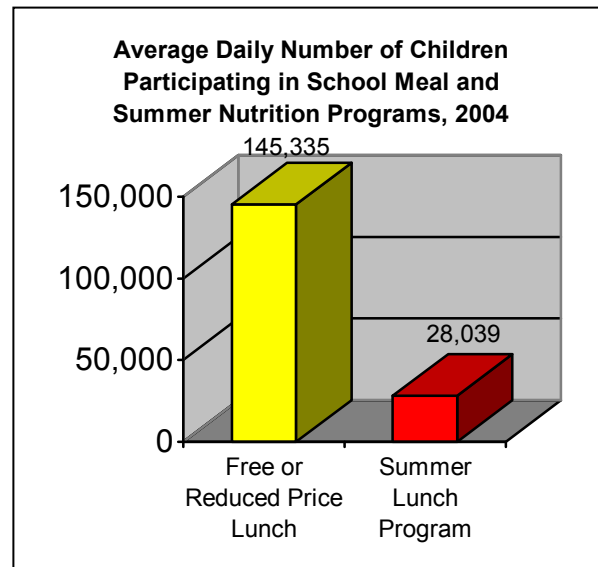
Summer Food Service Program: Because Child Hunger is a Year Round Problem SB 467

Feeding Children During the Summer:

- The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federal program that helps fill the summertime nutrition gap for the children who rely on school meal programs during the school year. Any school area where 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals is eligible to host an SFSP site.
- SFSP sponsors receive reimbursement from the US Department of Agriculture for meals served to eligible children through age 18. The program is administered at the state level by the Oregon Department of Education. Sponsors include schools and nonprofit community organizations.

The Problem:

- Unfortunately, in 2004 only about 19% of children who participated in school meal programs during the school year also received meals from SFSP.
- Many children live in areas without sufficient access to SFSP meal sites. In fact, in 2004 four Oregon counties had no sites at all.
- Each summer many sites are lost because sponsors find that the federal reimbursement does not cover all the costs of preparing and serving food, completing paperwork, and marketing their program.



An Affordable Solution

- SB 467 appropriates \$150,000 to maintain and expand access to healthy meals through the federally-funded SFSP.
- Eligible sponsors—including school districts, government agencies, and community organizations—would receive 5 cents in state funds for each lunch served during the summer.
- The additional reimbursement will increase access to SFSP meals by giving sponsors the extra funds they need to start, strengthen, and expand their programs. This additional state reimbursement will not decrease an SFSP sponsor's federal reimbursement. Instead, it will help cover additional costs of operating the program.
- If Oregon could serve 45 SFSP lunches each day for every 100 school lunches served each day during the school year, we would bring in an estimated additional \$102,371 in federal funds *each day* that summer meal program operate.

This bill is sponsored by Senator Ryan Deckert (D-Beaverton) and Rep. Debi Farr (R-Eugene). For more information on SB 467, contact Patti Whitney-Wise, Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force, at (503) 963-2290 or patti.ww@hcs.state.or.us.