

HOUSE BILL NO. 4520

May 22, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Snyder, Rheingans, Mentzer, Wooden, Glanville, Brixie, Breen, B. Carter, Price, Rogers, Weiss, Tate, Steckloff, Hoskins, Paiz, Young, Arbit, Longjohn, Liberati, McFall and Farhat and referred to Committee on Education and Workforce.

A bill to create a program to designate certain campuses at institutions of higher education in this state as hunger-free campuses; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; and to authorize the promulgation of rules.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act may be cited as the "hunger-free campus act".

2 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

3 (a) "Department" means the department of lifelong education,
4 advancement, and potential.

1 (b) "Hunger-free campus program" or "program" means the
2 hunger-free campus program created in section 3.

3 (c) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means
4 either of the following:

5 (i) A degree- or certificate-granting public or private college
6 or university, junior college, or community college in this state.

7 (ii) A federally recognized tribal college in this state.

8 Sec. 3. (1) The hunger-free campus program is created in the
9 department. The purposes of the program include all of the
10 following:

11 (a) Address student hunger at institutions of higher
12 education.

13 (b) Leverage sustainable solutions to address basic needs on
14 the campuses of institutions of higher education.

15 (c) Raise awareness of basic-needs services offered on the
16 campuses of institutions of higher education.

17 (d) Build strategic partnerships at the local, state, and
18 national levels to address food insecurity among students attending
19 institutions of higher education.

20 (e) Reduce barriers to student achievement resulting from
21 basic needs insecurity.

22 (2) The department shall do all of the following:

23 (a) Designate as a hunger-free campus each campus of an
24 institution of higher education that meets all of the following:

25 (i) Establishes a hunger task force that includes
26 representatives from the student body and campus administration
27 that meets at least 3 times per academic year to set at least 2
28 goals with action plans.

29 (ii) Designates a staff member responsible for informing

1 students about enrollment opportunities in this state's
2 supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) and other
3 assistance programs offered by the department of health and human
4 services.

5 (iii) Provides options for students to utilize SNAP EBT benefits
6 at campus stores or provides students with information on
7 establishments in the surrounding area of campus where they can
8 utilize SNAP EBT benefits.

9 (iv) Holds, participates in, or promotes at least 1 hunger
10 awareness event per academic year.

11 (v) Provides at least 1 physical food pantry on campus or
12 enables students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free
13 arrangement. A campus may partner with a local food bank or food
14 pantry to meet this requirement.

15 (vi) Develops a student meal credit donation program or
16 designates a certain amount of funds for free food vouchers that
17 might otherwise be raised through such a program. Each institution
18 of higher education may develop its own procedures for a meal
19 donation program.

20 (vii) Every academic year conducts a student survey on hunger,
21 developed by the department, that is formulated by using best
22 practices from the Trellis Research Student Financial Wellness
23 Survey. Each institution must submit the results of the survey to
24 the department at a time prescribed by the department for inclusion
25 in a comparative profile of each campus designated as a hunger-free
26 campus.

27 (b) Promulgate rules, as the department may consider
28 necessary, to implement this act under the administrative
29 procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.