**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**A182, R196, H3006**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Brawley, Robinson, Cobb‑Hunter, Haddon, Henegan, Hosey, J.L. Johnson, Govan, King, Gilliard, Murray, McDaniel, Henderson‑Myers and Garvin

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Introduced in the House on January 12, 2021

Introduced in the Senate on May 4, 2021

Last Amended on May 3, 2022

Passed by the General Assembly on May 10, 2022

Governor's Action: May 16, 2022, Signed

Summary: School lunch, debt

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 12/9/2020 House Prefiled

 12/9/2020 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works**

 1/12/2021 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 33](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210112.docx))

 1/12/2021 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 33](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210112.docx))

 1/14/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Henegan, J.L.Johnson

 4/22/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Henderson‑Myers

 4/22/2021 House Committee report: Favorable **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 25](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210422.docx))

 4/28/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Govan, King, Gilliard, Murray, McDaniel

 4/28/2021 House Debate adjourned ([House Journal‑page 36](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210428.docx))

 4/29/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Garvin

 4/29/2021 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210429.docx))

 4/29/2021 House Roll call Yeas‑108 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210429.docx))

 4/29/2021 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 22](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210429.docx))

 4/30/2021 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20210430.docx))

 5/4/2021 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 5](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20210504.docx))

 5/4/2021 Senate Referred to Committee on **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 5](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20210504.docx))

 4/20/2022 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20220420.docx))

 5/3/2022 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 22](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20220503.docx))

 5/3/2022 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 22](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20220503.docx))

 5/3/2022 Senate Roll call Ayes‑40 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 22](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20220503.docx))

 5/4/2022 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 26](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20220504.docx))

 5/10/2022 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 604](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20220510.docx))

 5/10/2022 House Roll call Yeas‑109 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 605](file:///h%3A%5Chj%5C20220510.docx))

 5/12/2022 Ratified R 196 ([Senate Journal‑page 216](file:///h%3A%5Csj%5C20220512.docx))

 5/16/2022 Signed By Governor

 5/31/2022 Effective date 05/16/22

 5/31/2022 Act No.  182

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/9/2020](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2021-22%5C3006_20201209.docx)

[4/22/2021](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2021-22%5C3006_20210422.docx)

[4/20/2022](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2021-22%5C3006_20220420.docx)

[5/3/2022](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2021-22%5C3006_20220503.docx)

(A182, R196, H3006)

**AN ACT** **TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑63‑785 SO AS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES MAY NOT USE DEBT COLLECTION AGENCIES TO COLLECT OR ATTEMPT TO COLLECT OUTSTANDING DEBTS ON STUDENT SCHOOL LUNCH OR BREAKFAST ACCOUNTS, TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES MAY NOT ASSESS OR COLLECT ANY INTEREST, FEES, OR OTHER SUCH MONETARY PENALTIES FOR OUTSTANDING DEBTS FOR STUDENT SCHOOL LUNCH OR BREAKFAST ACCOUNTS, TO PROVIDE NECESSARY DEFINITIONS, AND TO MAKE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT APPLICABLE TO DEBTS ON STUDENT LUNCH AND BREAKFAST ACCOUNTS OUTSTANDING ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT AND INCURRED AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**School meal debt collections, exceptions**

SECTION 1. Article 7, Chapter 63, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

 “Section 59‑63‑785. (A) A public school or public school district, including a charter school or charter school governing body, may not:

 (1) use a debt collection agency to collect or attempt to collect, directly or indirectly, debts due or assessed to be owed for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account of a student; or

 (2) assess or collect any interest, fees, or other such monetary penalties for outstanding debts on student school lunch or breakfast accounts.

 (B) For purposes of this section, ‘debt collection agency’ means any person or entity that collects or attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts due or asserted to be owed or due another. ‘Debt collection agency’ does not include the South Carolina Department of Revenue or the programs they administer or a public school, public school district, charter school, or charter school governing body.”

**Applicability**

SECTION 2. The provisions of this act apply to debts on student lunch and breakfast accounts outstanding on the effective date of this act and incurred after the effective date of this act.

**Time effective**

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 12th day of May, 2022.

Approved the 16th day of May, 2022.

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