

**THE IMPACT OF THE MS. WILLIE ANN GLENN ACT
FOR SUMMER FEEDING IN
BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

HISTORY:

The Ms. Willie Ann Glenn Act, Florida House Bill #227, became effective July 1, 2005. See the attached Technical Assistance Note, No. 2006-12, for a complete copy of the law. The purpose of the law is to require each school district to participate in the summer feeding program. The Broward County Public School District participates each year and anticipates approximately 50 school sites will be part of the program during the 2014 summer break.

The concerns with the Ms. Willie Ann Glenn Act are described below.

- By May 1, 2014, The School Board of Broward County, Florida must agree to sponsor or not sponsor the Summer Feeding Program as outlined in the Act, by voting on the issue at a School Board meeting at which public notice has been given and provides residents an opportunity to participate in the discussion.
- Agreement to participate involves:
 - Ensuring that at least one (1) elementary school, at which 50 percent or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, has an open site for at least 35 days, within 5 miles of the site.
 - Ensuring that within 10 miles of each elementary school, at which 50 percent or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, there is an open site for at least 35 days.
- Problems
 - Broward County Public Schools will be responsible for ensuring that these sites are indeed open and operate the required number of days, as well as obtaining someone to operate each site.
 - Programs will not be conducted on District property.
 - Monitoring of the off-site programs to ensure compliance will be extensive due to the size of the District.
 - A site operator may decide to drop out of the program, but the District will be held responsible for ensuring each site operates for 35 days.

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- Why Broward County Public Schools does not need this program:
 - Approximately one-hundred (100) schools qualify to participate in the program this year.
 - This summer approximately 50 schools, where 50 percent or more of the students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, will participate in the Summer Feeding Program.
 - Each location will have activities of an academic nature and students not part of the site activities will be allowed to eat.
 - **Adequate locations are already available for students within the county.**
 - Past experience has shown that opening a site only for summer feeding does not attract an adequate number of students to keep the site open.
 - As few as 5 students may come to a site open only for summer feeding.

RECOMMENDATION:

- Place the Florida House Bill #227, Ms. Willie Ann Glenn Act, on the Board Agenda for participation or non-participation.
- **Vote to disapprove and be exempt is recommended because the Broward County Public Schools already has a very successful healthy Summer Feeding Program throughout the county.**
- Notify the Commissioner of Education within 10 days of the decision not to participate and be exempt.