= HOUSE RESEARCH -----------------------------------Bill Summary =

FILE NUMBER:	H.F. 2576	DATE:	March 15, 2004
Version:	As introduced		
Authors:	Latz and others		
Subject:	Providing for the state to pay the full cost of school meals		
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Overview

This state of Minnesota pays a portion of the cost of each qualifying school lunch and breakfast that is served to Minnesota school children. The state reimbursement is in addition to federal funds for school meals. Minnesota currently pays eight cents for each full paid, reduced and free school lunch served to students. The 2003 Legislature significantly altered the state contribution rates for breakfast programs. Minnesota now contributes 30 cents for each reduced price breakfast and 55 cents for each fully paid breakfast.

This bill adds a state payment equal to the full reimbursement cost for each breakfast and lunch served to a student as a special diet because of the student's religious beliefs.

Section

- **1 School lunch aid computation.** Requires the state to pay the full costs for each full paid, reduced, and free lunch meal served to a student as a special diet item because of the student's religious beliefs.
- 2 **Breakfast program requirements.** Requires the state to reimburse each participating school district the full amount of the cost of each reduced price and fully paid breakfast that is a special diet based on the religious beliefs of the student.