Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

Act 862 of the Regular Session

A Bill

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: H2/9/17 H3/7/17 H3/9/17

Regular Session, 2017

HOUSE BILL 1457

By: Representatives C. Douglas, Hammer

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AND AN OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE USE OF AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF INSTRUCTION TO BE USED ON DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS CANCELLED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AND AN OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE USE OF AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF INSTRUCTION TO BE USED ON DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS CANCELLED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-127 is amended to read as follows:

6-10-127. Making up missed school days.

(a) If a superintendent cancels closes school for a regularly scheduled school day due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God, the superintendent can may make up missed school days by adding time to the beginning or ending of a regular school day for a minimum of sixty (60) minutes.

(b)(1) The Commissioner of Education may grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) student attendance days for public school districts that have an alternative instruction plan approved by the commissioner for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including without limitation virtual
learning, on days when the public school district is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as:

(A) A contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God; or

(B) A utility outage.

(2) The public school district's alternative instruction plan shall demonstrate how teaching and learning in the public school district will not be negatively impacted by the use of alternative methods of instruction under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

/s/C. Douglas

APPROVED: 04/04/2017