

Hall of the House of Representatives
83rd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2001
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1537

"AN ACT TO CHANGE THE UNIFORM DATES FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL
YEAR."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1537.

Amend House Bill No. 1537 as originally introduced:

Delete Representative Dangeau as a sponsor of the bill

AND

Add Representative G. Jeffress as sponsor of the bill

AND

Page 1, delete lines 9 and 10 and substitute the following:
"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 6-10-106 PERTAINING TO THE UNIFORM DATES FOR
THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR; TO ALLOW A WAIVER OF REQUIREMENTS
OF STUDENT TEACHER CONTACT DAYS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

AND

Page 1, delete lines 13 and 14 and substitute the following:
"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 6-10-106 PERTAINING TO THE UNIFORM DATES FOR
THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR; TO ALLOW A WAIVER OF REQUIREMENTS
OF STUDENT TEACHER CONTACT DAYS. "

AND

Page 1, delete SECTION 1 and substitute the following:
"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-10-106 is amended to read as follows:
6-10-106. Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year.
(a)(1) In each school year, the first day of the school year for
student attendance in the public elementary and secondary schools of the
State of Arkansas shall begin no earlier than August 19 and no later than
August 26. If, however, August 18 falls on a Monday, school may begin on that
date. The date for beginning the school year shall be determined by the
school board of the school district. Labor Day shall be celebrated as a
school holiday in all the school districts of the state, and school shall not

be held on that date.

(2) The Department of Education may grant a school district a waiver to begin school on an earlier or later date if the department determines that there exists a material and substantial reason for the school district to begin on an earlier or later date due to very exceptional or emergency circumstances such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God.

(b)(1) Contracts of employment for certified and noncertified employees of school districts may require school district employees to begin performance under their contract of employment prior to the first day of student attendance.

(2)(A) A local school board may waive up to three (3) contract days of certified or noncertified employees' contract days that have been missed in excess due to contagious disease outbreaks, inclement weather, fire, disasters or other acts of God.

(B) Any contract days waived under subdivision (2)(A) of this section, shall not cause a reduction in the certified or noncertified employees contract salary.

(C) Any contract days waived under subdivision (2)(A) of this section, shall also be waived by the State Board of Education for purposes of student/teacher contact day requirements.

(c) If the school year in any school district extends beyond the date observed as Memorial Day, such date shall be a holiday in the district. Provided, upon approval of the department, this date may be used as a make-up day in any school district which has unavoidably lost more than five (5) scheduled days of student attendance during the course of the school year due to contagious disease outbreaks, inclement weather, or other acts of God.

(d) No other waiver from the requirements of this section shall be granted.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly that an excess of school days were missed during the 2000-2001 school year due to inclement weather in many parts of the state; that local school boards need to take corrective actions as necessary in each school district prior to the end of the school year; and that immediate relief is necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall become effective on the date of its approval by the Governor. If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it shall become effective on the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house overrides the veto."

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative G. Jeffress
KAS/KAS - 032220010933
KAS245 _____ Chief Clerk