

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4

As Engrossed: H3/9/05  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 2506

5 By: Representatives Fite, Abernathy, Blount, Chesterfield, Cook, Dickinson, Jeffrey, J. Johnson, Kenney,  
6 Mahony, M. Martin, Pickett, Walters, Wood, Bond, Boyd, Dangeau, Edwards, Elliott, D. Evans, L.  
7 Evans, Everett, Goss, Harrelson, Key, Lamoureux, Matayo, Pace, Petrus, Rainey, Scroggin, Thomason,  
8 Thompson, Thyer, Verkamp, *R. Green*

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11 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

12 AN ACT TO ALLOW SCHOOLS TO BEGIN EACH SCHOOL YEAR  
13 ON THE FIRST MONDAY FOLLOWING THE SECOND SATURDAY  
14 IN AUGUST; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

15  
16 **Subtitle**

17 AN ACT TO ALLOW SCHOOLS TO BEGIN EACH  
18 SCHOOL YEAR ON THE FIRST MONDAY  
19 FOLLOWING THE SECOND SATURDAY IN AUGUST.

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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106 is amended to read as follows:  
25 6-10-106. Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year.

26 (a)(1)(A) In each school year, the first day of the school year for  
27 student attendance in the public elementary and secondary schools of the  
28 State of Arkansas ~~shall~~ may begin ~~no earlier than August 19 and the first~~  
29 Monday following the second Saturday in August, but shall begin no later than  
30 August 26. ~~If, however, August 18 falls on a Monday, school may begin on~~  
31 ~~that date. The date for beginning the school year shall be determined by the~~  
32 ~~school board of the school district.~~

33 (B) Labor Day shall be celebrated as a school holiday in  
34 all the school districts of the state, and school shall not be held on that  
35 date.

36 (2) The Department of Education may grant a school district a



1 waiver to begin school on an earlier or later date if the department  
2 determines that there exists a material and substantial reason for the school  
3 district to begin on an earlier or later date due to very exceptional or  
4 emergency circumstances such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement  
5 weather, or other acts of God.

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

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

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

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*/s/ Fite, et al*