

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2708

4
5 By: Representative Mahony
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOLS OF THE STATE OF
10 ARKANSAS TO FOLLOW A UNIFORM SCHOOL CALENDAR; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

13
14 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOLS OF THE STATE
15 OF ARKANSAS TO FOLLOW A UNIFORM SCHOOL
16 CALENDAR.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106 is amended to read as follows:

22 6-10-106. Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year.

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

30 (B) Labor Day The following days shall be celebrated as a
31 school holiday in all the school districts of the state, and ~~school shall not~~
32 ~~be held on~~ school shall be closed for the following holidays on the
33 particular dates for each holiday as prescribed by the Director of the
34 Department of Education:

35 (i) Ten (10) days for Christmas break;

36 (ii) Three (3) days for Thanksgiving;



1 (iii) Five (5) days for spring break at the end of
2 the third nine weeks;

3 (iv) Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday;

4 (v) George Washington's Birthday and Daisy Gaston
5 Bates Day;

6 (vi) Labor Day; and

7 (vii) Memorial Day.

8 (2) The Department of Education shall adopt a three-year
9 schedule setting forth a uniform master school schedule with holiday's under
10 this section, and school districts shall adhere to the uniform master school
11 schedule for the operation of each school district.

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

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

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

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

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