

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: H3/14/17

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1937

5 By: Representative Lowery
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS
9 CODE CONCERNING THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE SCHOOL
10 YEAR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE
13 ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING THE BEGINNING
14 AND END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.
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18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(a), concerning the dates for the
22 beginning and end of the school year, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1)(A) ~~In each school year~~ Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year,
24 the first day of the school year for student attendance in the public
25 elementary and secondary schools of the State of Arkansas shall be+

26 ~~(i) On or after the Monday of the week in which~~
27 ~~August 19 falls;~~

28 ~~(ii) Not earlier than August 14; and~~

29 ~~(iii) Not later than August 26~~ on or after the
30 Tuesday of the week in which Labor Day is observed.

31 (B) The date for beginning the school year shall be
32 determined by the board of directors of the school district.

33 (C) ~~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 ~~(D)~~ As used in this section, "week" means a seven-day



1 *period that begins on a Sunday and ends on a Saturday.*

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

8
9 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(c), concerning the dates for the*
10 *beginning and end of the school year, is amended to read as follows:*

11 *(c)(1) ~~If the~~ The school year in any school district ~~extends~~ shall not*
12 *extend beyond the Friday before the date observed as Memorial Day, such date*
13 *shall be a holiday in the school district.*

14 *(2) Provided, upon approval of the department, ~~this date~~ the*
15 *week after Memorial Day may be used as a make-up day in any school district*
16 *which has unavoidably lost more than five (5) scheduled days of student*
17 *attendance during the course of the school year due to contagious disease*
18 *outbreaks, inclement weather, or other acts of God.*

19
20 *SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106, concerning the dates for the*
21 *beginning and end of the school year, is amended to add an additional*
22 *subsection to read as follows:*

23 *(g) The department shall promulgate rules to implement this*
24 *section.*

25
26 */s/Lowery*