

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1390

5 By: Representative Lowery
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DATES FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE
9 SCHOOL YEAR; TO AMEND THE DATE ON WHICH PUBLIC
10 SCHOOLS SHALL BEGIN THE SCHOOL YEAR; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE DATE ON WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
15 SHALL BEGIN THE SCHOOL YEAR.
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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(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, 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 not 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~~ the Monday
29 before Labor Day

30 ~~(iii) Not later than August 26.~~

31 (B) The date for beginning the school year shall be
32 determined by the board of directors of ~~the~~ each school district in
33 accordance with subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section.

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



1 ~~(D)~~(C) As used in this section, “week” means a seven-day
 2 period that begins on a Sunday and ends on a Saturday.

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

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