

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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SENATE DRS75199-MK-7 (11/26)

Short Title: Calendar Waiver/Enhanced Prog. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Tillman (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO SET SCHOOL CALENDAR
3 DATES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF ENHANCED
4 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND COLLEGE TRANSFER CERTIFICATE
5 PROGRAMS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-84.2(d) reads as rewritten:

8 "(d) Opening and Closing Dates. – Local boards of education shall determine the dates
9 of opening and closing the public schools under subdivision (a)(1) of this section. Except for
10 year-round schools, the opening date for students shall be no earlier than the Monday closest to
11 August 26, and the closing date for students shall be no later than the Friday closest to June 11.
12 On a showing of good cause, the State Board of Education may waive the requirement that the
13 opening date for students be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and may allow the
14 local board of education to set an opening date no earlier than the Monday closest to August 19,
15 to the extent that school calendars are able to provide sufficient days to accommodate
16 anticipated makeup days due to school closings. A local board may revise the scheduled
17 closing date if necessary in order to comply with the minimum requirements for instructional
18 days or instructional time. For purposes of this subsection, the term "good cause" means that
19 schools in any local school administrative unit in a county have been closed eight days per year
20 during any four of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages,
21 power failures, or other emergency situations.

22 The State Board of Education also may waive the requirement upon application by a local
23 board of education to modify the school calendar to support implementation and operation of
24 an education program that is (i) established in collaboration with a community college pursuant
25 to G.S. 115D-20(4)a.2. or G.S. 115D-20(4)a.3. and (ii) designed to align the school's opening
26 and closing dates with the community college's course schedule. The State Board of Education
27 may grant the waiver for such a program to the extent that the State Board finds that the waiver
28 is necessary to accomplish the purpose of the program and the request is not an attempt to
29 circumvent the opening and closing dates set forth in this subsection. Waiver requests for such
30 programs shall not be used to accommodate systemwide class scheduling preferences.

31 The required opening and closing dates under this subsection shall not apply to any school
32 that a local board designated as having a modified calendar for the 2003-2004 school year or to
33 any school that was part of a planned program in the 2003-2004 school year for a system of
34 modified calendar schools, so long as the school operates under a modified calendar."

35 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
36 the 2013-2014 school year.

