

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 71
Feb 13, 2019
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30006-MV-31

Short Title: Permit Lincoln Co Schools & Com College Align. (Local)

Sponsors: Representative Saine.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ALIGN ITS
3 SCHOOL CALENDAR WITH THAT OF GASTON COLLEGE.

4 Whereas, alignment of the local school administrative unit and community college
5 calendars benefits high school students by enhancing their ability to do the following:

- 6 (1) Participate in the Career and College Promise Program to earn free college
7 credit through dual enrollment.
8 (2) Satisfy Career and Technical Education pathway requirements through dual
9 enrollment.
10 (3) Enhance job training skills necessary to become more effective and efficient
11 workers.
12 (4) Receive opportunities for on-the-job training and experience through
13 internships.
14 (5) Receive job-specific paid training and education, leading to permanent job
15 placement through apprenticeships.
16 (6) Complete high school in less than four years to begin full-time college
17 coursework or join the workforce early.
18 (7) Achieve higher test scores by completing fall semester exams prior to winter
19 break.
20 (8) Gain additional instructional time for Advanced Placement exam preparation;
21 and

22 Whereas, alignment of the local school administrative unit and community college
23 calendars better provides high school teachers instructional continuity by allowing fall semester
24 exams prior to winter break and allows high school teachers to collaborate with community
25 college educators to better prepare high school students for postsecondary education; and

26 Whereas, alignment of the local school administrative unit and community college
27 calendars allows high school teachers and college instructors to work together to promote student
28 success in transitioning from high school to college; Now, therefore,
29 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

31 "(d) Opening and Closing Dates. – Local boards of education shall determine the dates of
32 opening and closing the public schools under subdivision (a)(1) of this section. Except for
33 year-round schools, the opening date for students shall be no earlier than the Monday closest to
34 August 26, and the closing date for students shall be no later than the Friday closest to June 11.
35 On a showing of good cause, the State Board of Education may waive the requirement that the
36 opening date for students be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and may allow the



1 local board of education to set an opening date no earlier than the Monday closest to August 19,
2 to the extent that school calendars are able to provide sufficient days to accommodate anticipated
3 makeup days due to school closings. A local board may revise the scheduled closing date if
4 necessary in order to comply with the minimum requirements for instructional days or
5 instructional time. For purposes of this subsection, the term "good cause" means that schools in
6 any local school administrative unit in a county have been closed eight days per year during any
7 four of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures,
8 or other emergency situations.

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

13 Notwithstanding the required opening and closing dates under this subsection, a local board
14 of education may align the calendar of schools in the local school administrative unit with the
15 calendar of a community college serving the city or county in which the unit is located."

16 **SECTION 2.** This act applies only to Lincoln County Schools.

17 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
18 the 2019-2020 school year.