



HOUSE BILL 70: School Calendar Flexibility/Halifax.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	February 21, 2023
Introduced by:	Rep. Wray	Prepared by:	Samantha Yarborough Committee Counsel
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 70 would allow Halifax County Schools to open no earlier than the Monday closest to August 10 each year.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 115C-84.2(a)(1) requires school calendars to include a minimum of 185 days or 1,025 hours of instruction covering at least nine calendar months.

G.S. 115C-84.2(d) provides that, with certain exceptions, the opening date for students in a school calendar must be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26, and the closing date for students must be no later than the Friday closest to June 11. The State Board of Education may grant a good cause waiver to local boards of education in counties meeting certain requirements that allows the local board to set an opening date no earlier than the Monday closest to August 19.

G.S. 115C-174.12(a)(4) requires that final exams be administered within the final 10 instructional days of the school year for year-long courses and within the final 5 instructional days of the semester for semester-long courses.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 70 would allow Halifax County Schools to open for students no earlier than the Monday closest to August 10 each year. The bill would remove the State Board of Education's authority to grant a good cause waiver because Halifax County Schools would be granted the authority to open earlier than August 19. The bill states that if Halifax County Schools has a fall semester that concludes before December 31, assessments can be administered prior to the conclusion of the semester.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578