



HOUSE BILL 86: School Calendar Flex/Statewide.

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:	Reps. N. Jackson, Biggs, Stevens, Loftis	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *HB 86 would authorize local boards of education to set a start date for the school calendar no earlier than August 10, and would allow local boards of education that conclude the fall semester prior to December 31 to administer assessments prior to the conclusion of the fall semester.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 115C-84.2 requires that a school calendar must include a minimum of 185 days or 1025 hours of instruction covering at least nine calendar months. Except for year-round schools, the opening date for students cannot be earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and the closing date for students cannot be later than the Friday closest to June 11. The State Board of Education may waive this opening requirement and allow a local board of education to set an opening date no earlier than the Monday closest to August 19 after a showing of "good cause." Good cause means that schools in any local school administrative unit in a county have been closed 8 days per year during any of the 4 of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations.

G.S. 115C-174.12 requires that final exams for courses must be conducted in the final 10 days of the instructional year for year-long courses or final five days of the semester for semester courses. Exceptions are provided to meet the requirements of a student's individualized education program, or to administer final exams for courses with national or international curricula that are required to be held at certain times.

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 86 would allow local boards of education to set an opening date for the school calendar no earlier than August 10, and would allow local boards of education that conclude the fall semester prior to December 31 to administer assessments prior to the conclusion of the fall semester.

EFFECTIVE DATE: HB 86 would become effective when it becomes law and would apply beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578