

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 258

Short Title: School Calendar Flexibility. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lucas, L. Bell, Setzer, and Carney (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Education.

March 11, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO SET SCHOOL
3 CALENDARS FOR THEIR LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

21 Notwithstanding the required opening date under this subsection, a local board of education
22 may schedule the school opening and closing dates for any school in the local administrative
23 unit to coincide with the opening and closing dates of a community college serving the city or
24 county in which the school unit is located.

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

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

