

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023**

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HOUSE BILL 86

Short Title: School Calendar Flex/Statewide. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives N. Jackson, Biggs, Stevens, and Loftis (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 13, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY IN ADOPTING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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

23 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-174.12(a)(4) reads as rewritten:

24 "(4) All annual assessments of student achievement adopted by the State Board of
25 Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(1) and (3) and all final exams for
26 courses shall be administered within the final 10 instructional days of the
27 school year for year-long courses and within the final five instructional days
28 of the semester for semester courses. Exceptions shall be permitted to
29 accommodate a student's individualized education program and section 504
30 (29 U.S.C. § 794) plans and for the administration of final exams for courses
31 with national or international curricula required to be held at designated times.
32 A local board of education that has implemented a school calendar that
33 concludes the fall semester prior to December 31 may administer assessments
34 prior to the conclusion of that semester."



1 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
2 the 2023-2024 school year.