

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 116
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/13/21
Third Edition Engrossed 4/28/21

Short Title: School Calendar Flex./Certain School Systems.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 23, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY TO CERTAIN BOARDS OF
3 EDUCATION IN ADOPTING SCHOOL CALENDARS.

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

21 ~~The required opening and closing dates under this subsection shall not apply to any school~~
22 ~~that a local board designated as having a modified calendar for the 2003-2004 school year or to~~
23 ~~any school that was part of a planned program in the 2003-2004 school year for a system of~~
24 ~~modified calendar schools, so long as the school operates under a modified~~
25 ~~calendar.~~ Notwithstanding the required opening date under this subsection, a local board of
26 education may schedule the school opening and closing dates for any school in the local
27 administrative unit to coincide with the opening and closing dates of a community college serving
28 the city or county in which the school unit is located."

29 **SECTION 2.** This act applies only to Asheboro City Schools, Cleveland County
30 Schools, Gaston County Schools, and Randolph County Schools.

31 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
32 the 2021-2022 school year.

