

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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S.B. 163
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS35074-NG-47

Short Title: School Calendar Flexibility/Certain Systems. (Local)

Sponsors: Senator Foushee (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

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

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.~~

20 ~~The required opening and closing dates under this subsection shall not apply to any school~~
21 ~~that a local board designated as having a modified calendar for the 2003-2004 school year or to~~
22 ~~any school that was part of a planned program in the 2003-2004 school year for a system of~~
23 ~~modified calendar schools, so long as the school operates under a modified calendar. Regardless~~
24 ~~of the opening date selected for students, all first semester examinations may be given before~~
25 ~~winter break.~~

26 **SECTION 2.** This act applies only to Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools and Orange
27 County Schools.

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

