



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 116: School Calendar Flex./Certain School Systems.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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| Committee: | House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House | Date: | April 13, 2021 |
| Introduced by: | Reps. McNeill, Hurley | Prepared by: | Jordan Briggs, Legal Extern, Kara McCraw Staff Attorney |
| Analysis of: | PCS to First Edition H116-CSTC-16 | | |

OVERVIEW: House Bill 116 would allow Randolph County Schools and Asheboro City Schools to set school opening dates no earlier than August 1 and to schedule school opening and closing dates to coincide with those dates of a community colleges in the same city or county.

The PCS would add Gaston County Schools to the bill.

CURRENT LAW: Under G.S. 115C-84.2, 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.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 116 would allow local boards of education in Gaston County Schools, Randolph County Schools, and Asheboro City Schools to set the opening date for public schools no earlier than August 1, excepting year-round schools. The bill would also allow those local boards to schedule the school opening and closing dates for any school in the LEA to coincide with the opening and closing dates of community college in the city or county in which the school is located.

Regardless of start date, this bill would require first semester examinations to be given before winter break.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

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