

HOUSE BILL 679

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8lr2912

By: **Delegates Pena–Melnyk, Hettleman, Ali, Anderson, Angel, Atterbeary, Barkley, B. Barnes, D. Barnes, Barron, Beidle, Carr, Chang, Clippinger, Cullison, Ebersole, Fennell, Fraser–Hidalgo, Frick, Frush, Gaines, Gilchrist, Gutierrez, Hixson, Holmes, Jackson, Jameson, Jones, Kaiser, Kelly, Korman, Kramer, Lafferty, Lam, J. Lewis, R. Lewis, Lierman, Luedtke, McIntosh, Moon, Morales, Morhaim, Mosby, Patterson, Pendergrass, Platt, Proctor, Queen, Reznik, Robinson, Rosenberg, Sanchez, Simonaire, Sophocleus, Tarlau, Turner, Valderrama, Valentino–Smith, Vallario, Waldstreicher, Walker, A. Washington, M. Washington, Wilkins, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – School Year – Completion Date**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a public school to complete the school year on or before a
4 certain day each year; and generally relating to the completion date for the school
5 year for public schools.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Education
8 Section 7–103(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 7–103(b)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Education**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 7-103.

2 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b), (e), and (f) of this section, each public
3 school under the jurisdiction of a county board:

4 (1) (i) Shall be open for pupil attendance for at least 180 actual school
5 days and a minimum of 1,080 school hours during a 10-month period in each school year;
6 or

7 (ii) If normal school attendance is prevented because of conditions
8 described in subsection (b) of this section, shall be open for at least 1,080 hours during a
9 10-month period;

10 (2) Shall be open for pupil attendance a minimum of 3 hours during each
11 school day; [and]

12 (3) May not be open on Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays in order to meet
13 the 180-day or 1,080-hour requirement of this subsection; **AND**

14 **(4) SHALL COMPLETE THE SCHOOL YEAR ON OR BEFORE THE THIRD**
15 **FRIDAY IN JUNE EACH YEAR.**

16 (b) (1) If a county board submits a written application to the State Board that
17 describes a demonstrated effort by the county board to comply with subsection (a) of this
18 section, the State Board may permit:

19 (i) Adjustments in the length of the school year;

20 (ii) Exceptions from the requirement that the school year be
21 completed within a 10-month period;

22 (iii) Adjustments in the length of the school day; and

23 (iv) Schools to be open on holidays.

24 (2) These adjustments may be granted only if normal school attendance is
25 prevented because of:

26 (i) Natural disaster;

27 (ii) Civil disaster; or

28 (iii) Severe weather conditions.

29 (3) Education funding from State or local sources may not be reduced if
30 there are less than 180 school days in any year because of an approved application under

1 this subsection.

2 (4) In case of emergency, the State Board may open schools on holidays.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
4 1, 2018.