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By: Senators Pinsky and King

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2019

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

## A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

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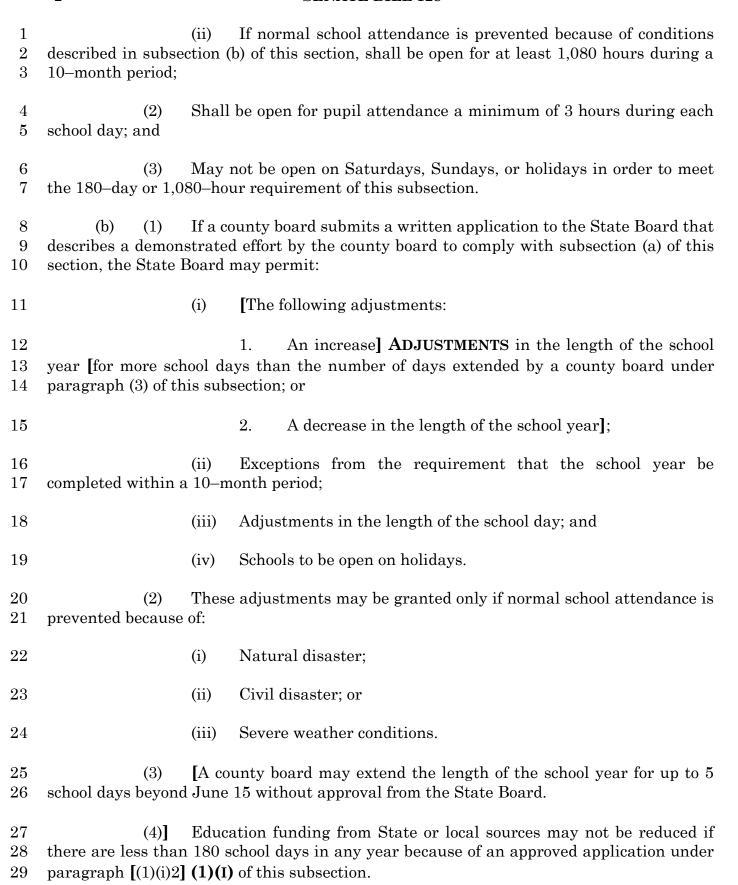
## County Boards of Education - School Year - Start and End Dates

- FOR the purpose of repealing a provision of law that authorized a county board of education to extend the length of the school year for a certain number of days without approval from the State Board of Education; requiring each county board to set the start date and end date of the school year for the public schools in the county each year; making conforming changes; and generally relating to the start date and end date of the school year and county boards of education.
- 9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 10 Article Education
- 11 Section 7–103
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)
- 14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## 16 Article – Education

- 17 7–103.
- 18 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b), **[(e)] (F)**, and **[(f)] (G)** of this section, 19 each public school under the jurisdiction of a county board:
- 20 (1) (i) Shall be open for pupil attendance for at least 180 actual school 21 days and a minimum of 1,080 school hours during a 10-month period in each school year;
- 22 or





$\frac{1}{2}$	holidays.	[(5)]	(4)	In case of emergency, the State Board may open schools on	
3	(c)	(1)	The f	following days are public school holidays:	
4			(i)	Thanksgiving Day and the day after;	
5			(ii)	Christmas Eve and from then through January 1;	
6			(iii)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;	
7			(iv)	Presidents' Day;	
8 9	after Easter	·,	(v)	The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday	
0			(vi)	Memorial Day; and	
1			(vii)	Primary and general election days.	
$egin{array}{c} 12 \\ 13 \\ 14 \\ \end{array}$	(2) If the federal and State observances of a holiday are on different days, the board of education of each county shall determine which date shall be the date of observance for the public schools within the county.				
15 16					
17			(i)	Washington's Birthday;	
18			(ii)	Lincoln's Birthday;	
9			(iii)	Veterans' Day;	
20			(iv)	Columbus Day;	
21			(v)	Arbor Day; and	
22			(vi)	Any other day of national significance.	
23 24 25	in the following counties, may remain open and in session on primary and general electi				
26			(i)	Calvert;	
27			(ii)	Caroline;	

1	(iii)	Dorchester;
2	(iv)	Kent;
3	(v)	Talbot; and
1	(vi)	Worcester

- 5 (d) Except as provided in subsection [(e)] (F) of this section, the State Board shall 6 divide the school year into the terms it considers appropriate.
- 7 (E) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW AND SUBJECT TO 8 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL SET THE START 9 DATE AND END DATE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE 10 COUNTY EACH YEAR.
- [(e)] (F) (1) The county boards of Allegany, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties, and the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City, may elect to operate one or more schools within the county or Baltimore City on a year—round basis, provided that the 180—day and the minimum hour requirements under this section are met.
- 16 (2) Nothing in this section precludes a county board from conducting a year—round pilot study or program that is funded by the county board.
- 18 **[(f)] (G)** Publicly funded prekindergarten programs are not subject to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.