

# HOUSE BILL 679

F1

**EMERGENCY BILL**  
**ENROLLED BILL**

(8lr2912)

— *Ways and Means/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* —

Introduced by **Delegates Pena–Melnik, 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~~ K. Young, and Saab**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 **County Boards of Education – Length of School Year – Adjustments**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring a public school to complete the school year on or before a~~  
5 ~~certain day each year; and generally relating to the completion date for the school~~  
6 ~~year for public schools~~ **authorizing a county board of education to extend the length**

**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.*



of the school year for up to 5 school days beyond a certain date without approval from the State Board of Education; requiring a county board to submit a written application to the State Board for permission to increase the length of the school year for more than a certain number of school days in accordance with a certain provision of law or to decrease the length of the school year; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to adjustments to the length of the school year and county boards of education.

BY repealing and reenacting, ~~with~~ without amendments,

Article – Education

Section 7–103(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, ~~without~~ with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 7–103(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### Article – Education

7–103.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (i) ~~Adjustments~~ **THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS:**

5 **1. AN INCREASE** in the length of the school year **FOR MORE**  
 6 **SCHOOL DAYS THAN THE NUMBER OF DAYS EXTENDED BY A COUNTY BOARD UNDER**  
 7 **PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION; OR**

8 **2. A DECREASE IN THE LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL YEAR;**

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

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

12 (iv) Schools to be open on holidays.

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

15 (i) Natural disaster;

16 (ii) Civil disaster; or

17 (iii) Severe weather conditions.

18 **(3) A COUNTY BOARD MAY EXTEND THE LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**  
 19 **FOR UP TO 5 SCHOOL DAYS BEYOND JUNE 15 WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM THE STATE**  
 20 **BOARD.**

21 ~~(3)~~ **(4)** Education funding from State or local sources may not be  
 22 reduced if there are less than 180 school days in any year because of an approved  
 23 application under **PARAGRAPH (1)(I)2 OF** this subsection.

24 ~~(4)~~ **(5)** In case of emergency, the State Board may open schools on  
 25 holidays.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act ~~shall take effect July~~  
 27 ~~1, 2018~~ **is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
 28 **health or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the**  
 29 **members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect**  
 30 **from the date it is enacted.**