

House File 2508

H-8077

1 Amend House File 2508 as follows:

2 1. By striking everything after the enacting clause and  
3 inserting:

4 <Section 1. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph i, Code  
5 2026, is amended to read as follows:

6 *i.* Provide instruction for at least the number of days  
7 or hours required by [section 279.10, subsection 1](#), unless  
8 specifically waived by the state board as part of the  
9 application process. However, the mandatory spring break  
10 period established in section 279.10, subsection 1, paragraph  
11 "b", shall not be waived.

12 Sec. 2. Section 279.10, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 1. a. The school year for each school district and  
15 accredited nonpublic school shall begin on July 1 and the  
16 school calendar shall begin no sooner than August 23 and no  
17 later than the first Monday in December. The school calendar  
18 shall include not less than one hundred eighty days or one  
19 thousand eighty hours of instruction during the calendar  
20 year, of which not more than five days or thirty hours of  
21 instruction may be delivered primarily over the internet except  
22 as otherwise provided in [section 256.43](#) or in rules adopted  
23 by the state board of education pursuant to section 256.7,  
24 subsection 32. The board of directors of a school district and  
25 the authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school  
26 shall determine the school start date for the school calendar  
27 in accordance with [this subsection](#) and shall set the number  
28 of days or hours of required attendance for the school year  
29 as provided in [section 299.1, subsection 2](#), but the board of  
30 directors of a school district shall hold a public hearing  
31 on any proposed school calendar prior to adopting the school  
32 calendar. If the board of directors of a district or the  
33 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school extends  
34 the school calendar because inclement weather caused the school  
35 district or accredited nonpublic school to temporarily close

1 during the regular school calendar, the school district or  
2 accredited nonpublic school may excuse a graduating senior  
3 who has met district or school requirements for graduation  
4 from attendance during the extended school calendar. A school  
5 corporation may begin employment of personnel for in-service  
6 training and development purposes before the date to begin  
7 elementary and secondary school.

8 b. The school calendar for each school district and  
9 accredited nonpublic school must include a spring break  
10 consisting of five consecutive school days during the week  
11 immediately following the conclusion of the state boys  
12 basketball tournament conducted by the Iowa high school  
13 athletic association or its successor organization. During  
14 that week, classes shall not be held and school-sponsored  
15 activities, including extracurricular activities, shall not  
16 occur.

17 Sec. 3. Section 280.13, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code  
18 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraphs:

19 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (5) (a) Beginning with the 2026-2027  
20 school year, the corporation, association, or organization  
21 observes the noncontact periods described in this subparagraph,  
22 during which a coach, director, or teacher shall not have  
23 contact with students regarding extracurricular interscholastic  
24 athletic contests or competitions, including athletics,  
25 dance or cheerleading, band, show choir, and theater,  
26 and extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
27 competitions do not occur. All high school students, including  
28 incoming ninth grade students, shall be subject to a noncontact  
29 period and shall not have contact, on or off school premises,  
30 with coaches, directors, or teachers, or use school facilities  
31 for extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
32 competitions during a noncontact period.

33 (b) The corporation, association, or organization  
34 establishes a minimum of twenty-three calendar days of  
35 noncontact periods each year.

1 (c) The minimum twenty-three calendar days required  
2 under subparagraph division (b) must comply with all of the  
3 following:

4 (i) Ten calendar days must begin on the Sunday immediately  
5 following the conclusion of the state softball or the state  
6 baseball tournament, whichever concludes later.

7 (ii) Eight calendar days must begin on the Sunday  
8 immediately following the conclusion of the state boys  
9 basketball tournament.

10 (iii) The remaining calendar days must be established  
11 at the discretion of the corporations, associations, and  
12 organizations, in coordination with each other.

13 (d) Organizations that operate nonschool-sponsored  
14 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
15 competitions in this state shall observe the noncontact periods  
16 in this subparagraph.

17 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (6) If the corporation, association,  
18 or organization sponsors a state volleyball tournament, that  
19 tournament shall not begin until the day after the general  
20 election as provided in section 39.1 or the regular city  
21 election as provided in section 376.1, subsection 1, as  
22 applicable.>

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WHEELER of Sioux