

House File 185 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 185

BY MITCHELL

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the school start date and including
- 2 effective date provisions.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 279.10, subsection 1, Code 2019, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. The school year for each school district and accredited
4 nonpublic school shall begin on July 1 and the school calendar
5 shall begin no sooner than ~~August 23~~ the Monday following the
6 last day on which the annual state fair and exposition is held
7 by the Iowa state fair board pursuant to chapter 173 and no
8 later than the first Monday in December. The school calendar
9 shall include not less than one hundred eighty days or one
10 thousand eighty hours of instruction during the calendar year.
11 The board of directors of a school district and the authorities
12 in charge of an accredited nonpublic school shall determine the
13 school start date for the school calendar in accordance with
14 this subsection and shall set the number of days or hours of
15 required attendance for the school year as provided in section
16 299.1, subsection 2, but the board of directors of a school
17 district shall hold a public hearing on any proposed school
18 calendar prior to adopting the school calendar. If the board
19 of directors of a district or the authorities in charge of an
20 accredited nonpublic school extends the school calendar because
21 inclement weather caused the school district or accredited
22 nonpublic school to temporarily close during the regular school
23 calendar, the school district or accredited nonpublic school
24 may excuse a graduating senior who has met district or school
25 requirements for graduation from attendance during the extended
26 school calendar. A school corporation may begin employment
27 of personnel for in-service training and development purposes
28 before the date to begin elementary and secondary school.

29 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
30 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This bill provides that a school district or accredited
35 nonpublic school cannot begin its school calendar prior to the

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- 1 Monday following the last day of the state fair.
- 2 Currently, August 23 is the earliest school start date
- 3 allowed.
- 4 The bill takes effect upon enactment.