

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1999

343C0359

HOUSE BILL NO. 1219

Introduced by: Representatives Richter, Brown (Richard), Duniphan, Lucas, and Peterson and
Senators Hainje, Brosz, and Drake

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to increase the school term.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 Section 1. That § 13-26-2 be amended to read as follows:

4 13-26-2. The school board or governing body shall operate grades one through twelve in its
5 schools for at least a nine-month regular term in any one school year. The regular school term
6 shall be for a term as specified in section 2 of this Act and may be conducted on a year-round
7 basis, ~~but for grades one through twelve shall consist of school actually in session for at least one~~
8 ~~hundred seventy-five days~~ and shall begin on a date established by the school board. The State
9 Board of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 governing the operation and
10 scheduling of year-round schools. The rules may allow deviations from the ~~one hundred~~
11 ~~seventy-five day~~ requirement in ~~this~~ section 2 of this Act and from the five and one-half hour per
12 day requirement in § 13-26-1 if the total school term hours requirement in § 13-26-2.1 is met.
13 The local school board or governing body may establish the school term for kindergarten
14 programs. Any school board or governing body may release graduating high school seniors from
15 school before the end of the regular term if the release is for no more than three days. Make up
16 days for school closing because of weather, disease or emergency need not exceed ten days.

1 Graduating seniors are excused from make up days if the make up days occur after the students
2 have graduated or after graduation exercises have been held. If classes have been convened and
3 then are dismissed because of inclement weather, that day constitutes a day in session.

4 School boards are encouraged to provide days within the regular school term for curriculum
5 and staff development which shall be in addition to the ~~one hundred seventy-five days required~~
6 ~~in this section~~ requirement in section 2 of this Act. Each school board shall determine the
7 appropriate number of days for this activity and how best to use the time based on local needs
8 for program development, increased parent participation, student contact, teachers' preparation,
9 or other needs of the schools in the district. School shall be in session only when classes are held
10 and as provided in §§ 13-26-4 and 13-26-4.1. A school board may operate a special term during
11 the summer months.

12 Section 2. That chapter 13-26 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
13 follows:

14 The school term for the purposes of § 13-26-2 for the 1999-2000 school year shall consist
15 of at least one hundred seventy-seven days. The school term for the 2000-2001 school year shall
16 consist of at least one hundred seventy-eight days. The school term for the 2001-2002 school
17 year shall consist of at least one hundred seventy-nine days. The school term for the 2002-2003
18 school year and thereafter shall be at least one hundred eighty days.

19 Section 3. The per student allocation in § 13-13-10.1, the allocation for a student with a mild
20 disability in § 13-37-35, and the allocation for a student with a severe disability in § 13-37-35
21 shall in addition to the index factor be increased one percent for the 1999-2000 state aid
22 distribution, and one-half percent for each of the 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003 state
23 aid distributions.