

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1999

802C0296

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ENGROSSED NO. **SB193** - 2/24/99

Introduced by: Senators Hainje and Paisley and Representatives Brown (Richard), Peterson,
and Richter

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

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

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

4 13-26-1. The school fiscal year shall begin July first and end June thirtieth. ~~A school day~~ The
5 length of days shall be ~~at least five and one-half hours, exclusive of intermissions, and at least~~
6 ~~two and three-fourths hours shall count as a half day~~ set by each local school board. A school
7 term for grades four through twelve shall consist of a minimum of nine hundred sixty-two and
8 one-half hours, exclusive of intermission. The time specified as a "school day" shall not apply
9 below grade four. An "intermission" is the time when pupils are at recess or lunch.

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

11 13-26-2. The school board or governing body shall operate grades one through twelve in its
12 schools for at least ~~a nine-month regular term~~ nine hundred sixty-two and one-half hours,
13 exclusive of intermissions, in any one school year. The regular school term may be conducted
14 on a year-round basis, ~~but for grades one through twelve shall consist of school actually in~~
15 ~~session for at least one hundred seventy-five days~~ and shall begin on a date established by the
16 school board. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26

1 governing the operation and scheduling of year-round schools. ~~The rules may allow deviations~~
2 ~~from the one hundred seventy-five day requirement in this section and from the five and one-half~~
3 ~~hour per day requirement in § 13-26-1 if the total school term hours requirement in § 13-26-2.1~~
4 ~~is met.~~ The local school board or governing body may establish the school term for kindergarten
5 programs. Any school board or governing body may release graduating high school seniors from
6 school before the end of the regular term if the release is for no more than three days. Make up
7 days for school closing because of weather, disease or emergency need not exceed ten days.
8 Graduating seniors are excused from make up days if the make up days occur after the students
9 have graduated or after graduation exercises have been held. If classes have been convened and
10 then are dismissed because of inclement weather, that day constitutes a day in session equal to
11 the number of hours planned for that day as established in the local school district calendar for
12 the year.

13 School boards are encouraged to provide days within the regular school term for curriculum
14 and staff development which shall be in addition to the ~~one hundred seventy-five days~~ nine
15 hundred sixty-two and one-half hours required in this section. Each school board shall determine
16 the appropriate number of days for this activity and how best to use the time based on local
17 needs for program development, increased parent participation, student contact, teachers'
18 preparation, or other needs of the schools in the district. School shall be in session only when
19 classes are held and as provided in §§ 13-26-4 and 13-26-4.1. A school board may operate a
20 special term during the summer months.

21 Section 3. That § 13-26-2.1 be amended to read as follows:

22 13-26-2.1. Notwithstanding §§ 13-26-1 and 13-26-2, each local school board may establish
23 the length of a school day and the number of school days in a school week, ~~provided.~~ However,
24 the number of school hours in a school term for grades four through twelve may not be less than
25 nine hundred sixty-two and one-half hours, exclusive of intermission. ~~A plan to establish a school~~

- 1 ~~term pursuant to this section must first be approved by the South Dakota Board of Education.~~
- 2 The state board may adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, regulating the ~~approval~~ review and
- 3 revision of local district plans.

1 **BILL HISTORY**

2 1/28/99 First read in Senate and referred to Education. S.J. 233

3 2/2/99 Scheduled for Committee hearing on this date.

4 2/4/99 Scheduled for Committee hearing on this date.

5 2/4/99 Education Do Pass, Passed, AYES 7, NAYS 0. S.J. 332

6 2/4/99 Education Place on Consent Calendar.

7 2/5/99 Senate Deferred to another day. S.J. 358

8 2/8/99 Senate Do Pass, Passed, AYES 33, NAYS 1. S.J. 378

9 2/9/99 First read in House and referred to Education. H.J. 449

10 2/18/99 Scheduled for Committee hearing on this date.

11 2/23/99 Scheduled for Committee hearing on this date.

12 2/23/99 Education Do Pass Amended, Passed, AYES 7, NAYS 5. H.J. 698