

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2023**

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**HOUSE BILL 176**  
**Committee Substitute Favorable 3/14/23**

Short Title: School Calendar Flexibility.

(Local)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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February 23, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE CERTAIN SCHOOL SYSTEMS FLEXIBILITY IN ADOPTING THE  
2 SCHOOL CALENDAR.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-84.2(d) reads as rewritten:

5 "(d) Opening and Closing Dates. – Local boards of education shall determine the dates of  
6 opening and closing the public schools under subdivision (a)(1) of this section. Except for  
7 year-round schools, the opening date for students shall be no earlier than ~~the Monday closest to~~  
8 ~~August 26, August 10,~~ and the closing date for students shall be no later than the Friday closest  
9 to June 11. ~~On a showing of good cause, the State Board of Education may waive the requirement~~  
10 ~~that the opening date for students be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and may~~  
11 ~~allow the local board of education to set an opening date no earlier than the Monday closest to~~  
12 ~~August 19, to the extent that school calendars are able to provide sufficient days to accommodate~~  
13 ~~anticipated makeup days due to school closings. A local board may revise the scheduled closing~~  
14 ~~date if necessary in order to comply with the minimum requirements for instructional days or~~  
15 ~~instructional time. For purposes of this subsection, the term "good cause" means that schools in~~  
16 ~~any local school administrative unit in a county have been closed eight days per year during any~~  
17 ~~four of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures,~~  
18 ~~or other emergency situations.~~

19  
20 The required opening and closing dates under this subsection shall not apply to any school  
21 that a local board designated as having a modified calendar for the 2003-2004 school year or to  
22 any school that was part of a planned program in the 2003-2004 school year for a system of  
23 modified calendar schools, so long as the school operates under a modified calendar."

24 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-174.12(a)(4) reads as rewritten:

25 "(4) All annual assessments of student achievement adopted by the State Board of  
26 Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(1) and (3) and all final exams for  
27 courses shall be administered within the final 10 instructional days of the  
28 school year for year-long courses and within the final five instructional days  
29 of the semester for semester courses. Exceptions shall be permitted to  
30 accommodate a student's individualized education program and section 504  
31 (29 U.S.C. § 794) plans and for the administration of final exams for courses  
32 with national or international curricula required to be held at designated times.  
33 A local board of education that has implemented a school calendar that  
34 concludes the fall semester prior to December 31 may administer assessments  
35 prior to the conclusion of that semester."

36 **SECTION 3.** This act applies to Lee County Schools and Harnett County Schools.



1                   **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with  
2 the 2023-2024 school year.