

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 64

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GOODMAN.

Pre-filed December 1, 2006, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0543S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 171.031, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the opening date for all public schools.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 171.031, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 171.031, to read as follows:

171.031. 1. Each school board shall prepare annually a calendar for the
2 school term, specifying the opening date and providing a minimum term of at
3 least one hundred seventy-four days and one thousand forty-four hours of actual
4 pupil attendance.

5 2. **The state board of education shall annually establish a range**
6 **of dates during which local school districts may set their school**
7 **opening date, provided that the date range shall not include any dates**
8 **ten days prior to the first Monday in September. Each public school**
9 **district shall select a start date within this range unless the local**
10 **district follows the procedure set forth in subsection 3 of this section.**

11 3. **A district may set an opening date that is up to seven calendar**
12 **days prior to the earliest date in the range established by the state**
13 **board provided that: the local board gives public notice of a public**
14 **meeting to discuss the proposal of starting school on an earlier date;**
15 **and a majority of the board votes to allow an earlier opening date at**
16 **the public meeting. If the previous two conditions are met, the district**
17 **may set their opening date up to seven calendar days prior to the**
18 **earliest date in the range established by the state board. However, in**
19 **no event shall a public school start more than seventeen calendar days**
20 **prior to the first Monday in September.**

21 **4. Any local district that violates the provisions of this section**
22 **shall be fined by the department of elementary and secondary**
23 **education an amount equal to one quarter of the state funding the**
24 **district generated under section 163.031, RSMo, for each date the**
25 **district was in violation of this section.**

26 **5. The provisions of subsections 2 to 4 of this section shall not**
27 **apply to school districts in which school is in session for twelve months**
28 **of each calendar year or for districts that the commissioner of**
29 **education determines demonstrate highly extenuating circumstances**
30 **which justify violating the provisions of subsections 2 to 4 of this**
31 **section.**

32 **6. No school day shall be longer than seven hours except for vocational**
33 **schools which may adopt an eight-hour day in a metropolitan school district and**
34 **a school district in a first class county adjacent to a city not within a county.**

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Bill

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