

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
[ P E R F E C T E D ]  
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**SENATE BILL NO. 64**  
94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Reported from the Committee on Education, February 22, 2007, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 64, adopted March 6, 2007.

Taken up for Perfection March 6, 2007. Bill declared Perfected and Ordered Printed, as amended.

0543S.03P

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

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**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.

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*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Section A. Section 171.031, RSMo, is repealed and one new section  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. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of this section,**  
6 **for the 2006-2007 school year, each school board shall provide a**  
7 **minimum term of at least one hundred seventy-four days or one**  
8 **thousand forty-four hours of actual pupil attendance.**

9 **3. Each local school district may set its opening date each year,**  
10 **which date shall be no earlier than ten calendar days prior to the first**  
11 **Monday in September. No public school district shall select an early**  
12 **start date unless the district follows the procedure set forth in**  
13 **subsection 3 of this section.**

14 **4. A district may set an opening date that is more than ten**  
15 **calendar days prior to the first Monday in September only if the local**  
16 **school board first gives public notice of a public meeting to discuss the**  
17 **proposal of opening school on a date more than ten days prior to the**

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

18 first Monday in September, and the local school board holds said  
19 meeting and, at the same public meeting, a majority of the board votes  
20 to allow an earlier opening date. If all of the previous conditions are  
21 met, the district may set its opening date more than ten calendar days  
22 prior to the first Monday in September. The condition provided in this  
23 subsection must be satisfied by the local school board each year that  
24 the board proposes an opening date more than ten days before the first  
25 Monday in September.

26 5. If any local district violates the provisions of this section, the  
27 department of elementary and secondary education shall withhold an  
28 amount equal to one quarter of the state funding the district generated  
29 under section 163.031, RSMo, for each date the district was in violation  
30 of this section.

31 6. The provisions of subsections 2 to 4 of this section shall not  
32 apply to school districts in which school is in session for twelve months  
33 of each calendar year.

34 7. The state board of education may grant an exemption from  
35 this section to a school district that demonstrates highly unusual and  
36 extenuating circumstances justifying exemption from the provisions of  
37 subsections 2 to 4 of this section. Any exemption granted by the state  
38 board of education shall be valid for one academic year only.

39 8. No school day shall be longer than seven hours except for vocational  
40 schools which may adopt an eight-hour day in a metropolitan school district and  
41 a school district in a first class county adjacent to a city not within a county.

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