

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

SENATE BILL 180

By: Senator E. Williams

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH FLEXIBILITY
IN DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY
INCLEMENT WEATHER DAY; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH
FLEXIBILITY IN DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT
TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY INCLEMENT WEATHER
DAY; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 10, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-10-126. Emergency Inclement weather days.

(a) A superintendent may delay the start time or release early a school or schools in the school district due to emergency inclement weather.

(b)(1) For no more than five (5) school days total per year, a superintendent may, due to inclement weather, either:

(A) Delay the start of the school day until as late as 10:00 a.m.; or

(B) Release students from school no earlier than 1:00 p.m.

(2) A school day that is delayed or released early under subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall count as a credited school day, with no requirement for additional days to be added to the school calendar.



SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that inclement weather creates serious challenges for school districts; that make-up days from school missed due to inclement weather has caused difficulties for school districts over the past several years; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure school districts have additional options for managing schools and keeping students and staff safe during periods of inclement weather. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.