

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1781

By: Representative J. Mayberry

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAYS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION; TO CLARIFY THAT STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAYS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION SHALL COUNT TOWARDS THE ON-SITE, IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION DAYS FOR WHICH A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL BE OPEN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAYS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-127(b)(1), concerning the use of alternative methods of instruction, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1)(A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may grant up to the equivalent of ~~ten (10)~~ five (5) student attendance days for public school districts that have an alternative instruction plan approved by the commissioner for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including without limitation virtual learning, on days when the public school district



is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as:

~~(A)(i)~~ A contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God; or

~~(B)(ii)~~ A utility outage.

(B) The student attendance days approved by the commissioner under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section for the use of alternative methods of instruction shall count towards the number of on-site, in-person instruction days for which a public school district shall be open as required by law or Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rule.