

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

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H3/3/25

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1370

By: Representatives J. Mayberry, Cozart

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING MAKING UP MISSED SCHOOL DAYS; TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL DAYS OR HOURS, AS APPLICABLE, IN ITS SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING UP MISSED SCHOOL DAYS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

CONCERNING MAKING UP MISSED SCHOOL DAYS; AND TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL DAYS OR HOURS, AS APPLICABLE, IN ITS SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING UP MISSED SCHOOL DAYS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-127 is amended to read as follows:

6-10-127. Making up missed school days.

(a) If a superintendent closes school for a regularly scheduled school day due to an exceptional or emergency ~~circumstances such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God~~ circumstance, then the superintendent may make up missed school days by adding time to the beginning or ~~ending~~ end of a regular school day for a minimum of sixty (60) minutes.

(b)(1) Each public school district shall include an additional seven (7) days or the hourly equivalent of seven (7) days, as applicable, in the public school district's annual school calendar.



(2) The additional seven (7) days or the hourly equivalent of seven (7) days, as applicable, included in an annual school calendar under subdivision (b)(1) of this section:

(A) Shall be used before an additional student attendance day or its hourly equivalent under subsection (c) is granted by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

(B) May be used for:

(i) A day off school during a school week; or

(ii) A day unavoidably lost due to an exceptional or emergency circumstance.

~~(b)(1) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education (c)(1) Upon using all seven (7) school days or the hourly equivalent of seven (7) school days, as applicable, under subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner may grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) three (3) student attendance days or the hourly equivalent of three (3) student attendance days, as applicable, 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 a public school district is closed due to an exceptional or emergency circumstances such as: circumstance~~

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

~~(B) A utility outage.~~

(2) The public school district's alternative instruction plan shall demonstrate how teaching and learning in the public school district will not be negatively impacted by the use of alternative methods of instruction under subdivision ~~(b)(1)~~ (c)(1) of this section.

(d) If a public school district is closed due to an exceptional or emergency circumstance for more than ten (10) student attendance days or the hourly equivalent of ten (10) student attendance days, as applicable, in a school year, then the public school district shall:

(1) Make up each student attendance day missed because of the exceptional or emergency circumstance; or

(2) Submit a written application to the State Board of Education requesting additional student attendance days or the hourly equivalent of the requested additional student attendance days, as applicable, under

subdivision (c)(1) of this section if the public school district has an alternative instruction plan approved by the commissioner for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including without limitation virtual learning.

(e) As used in this section, "exceptional or emergency circumstance" means:

- (1) A contagious disease outbreak;
- (2) Inclement weather;
- (3) Other acts of God;
- (4) A utility outage; or
- (5) Any other unforeseen circumstance caused or created by humans, including without limitation an active shooter event or a threat of an active shooter event, that acts as a principal cause of a public school district's inability to conduct a portion of the minimum number of hours required for a school day under § 6-16-102.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2403(c), concerning requirements to be eligible to receive state funds to implement classroom teacher salary raises, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) ~~To~~ Except as provided under subdivision (c)(2) of this section, to be eligible for funds to implement the salary increases under subsections (a) and (b) of this section, each public school district and open-enrollment public charter school shall be open for on-site, in-person instruction for at least:

- ~~(1)(A)~~ One hundred seventy-eight (178) days; or
- ~~(2)(B)~~ One thousand sixty-eight (1,068) hours.

(2) However, a student attendance day or its hourly equivalent, as applicable, authorized under § 6-10-127 for the use of alternative methods of instruction when a public school district is closed due to an exceptional or emergency circumstance shall count towards the required number of days or hours, whichever the public school district uses, as required under subdivision (c)(1) of this section.

*/s/J. Mayberry*