

HB 1018 with HCA 1 -- SUMMER SCHOOL TERMS

SPONSOR: Cookson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 6 to 4.

Currently, a district may set an opening date that is more than 10 calendar days before the first Monday in September if the local school board first gives public notice of a public meeting to discuss the proposal of that earlier date, and the school board approves the date with a majority vote. This bill clarifies that the meeting must be held separate from a regularly-scheduled school board meeting, and the notice must be published in the newspaper with the largest circulation within the municipality or county in which the school district is located at least two weeks before the meeting.

Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the bill requires that all school held during the months of June, July, and August be conducted on a four-day school week schedule. The local school board must decide which days of the week school will be in session. These provisions must apply to all regular and summer school terms in which school is in session during the months of June, July, and August.

HCA 1: Exempts school buildings undergoing construction or renovation projects with estimated expenditures of \$100,000 or more or projects taking 10 or more days to complete from the provisions regarding the four-day school week schedule during June, July, and August

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will benefit students traveling in the summer and provide transparency when scheduling decisions are made.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Cookson.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the bill limits local control and might adversely affect districts that are struggling.

Testifying against the bill were School Administrators Coalition and Missouri State Teachers Association.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say they support scheduling a separate meeting to discuss school scheduling.

Testifying on the bill was Mo Canoe & Floaters Assoc/ Mo Assoc
Campgrounds & Rv Parks.