

Senate Bill No. 202—Senators Raggio, Coffin, Schneider, Cegavske, Townsend, Amodei, Beers, Care, Hardy, Heck, Lee, McGinness, Nolan, Rhoads, Tiffany, Titus, Washington and Wiener

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Gansert, Allen, Christensen, Holcomb, Sherer, Atkinson, Conklin, Hardy, Hettrick, Koivisto, Mortenson, Parks, Perkins, Seale and Smith

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; revising the manner in which school districts schedule contingent school days; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires a school district to provide a minimum of 180 school days in each school year for public schools. Each school district is also required to schedule at least 3 contingent school days to be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within the school district. (NRS 388.090)

This bill provides a school district with various methods for scheduling the contingent school days. The school district may schedule the 3 contingent school days as full school days, an equivalent number of minutes of instruction added to any school day or any combination of school days and minutes of instruction as long as the total minutes of instruction equal at least 3 school days. If minutes of instruction are added to a school day, at least 30 minutes must be added to the school day.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 388.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:
388.090 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, boards of trustees of school districts shall schedule and provide a minimum of 180 days of free school in the districts under their charge.

2. Except for an alternative schedule described in subsection 3, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by the board of trustees of a school district, authorize the school district to provide a program of instruction based on an alternative schedule if the number of minutes of instruction to be provided is equal to or greater than the number of minutes of instruction that would be provided in a program of instruction consisting of 180 school days. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall notify the board of trustees of the school district of the approval or denial of the application not later than 30 days after the Superintendent of Public Instruction receives the application. An alternative schedule proposed pursuant to this subsection must be developed in

accordance with chapter 288 of NRS. If a school district is located in a county whose population is 100,000 or more, the school district may not submit an application pursuant to this subsection unless the proposed alternative schedule of the school district will apply only to a rural portion or a remote portion of the county in which the school district is located, as defined by the State Board pursuant to subsection 8.

3. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by the board of trustees of a school district, authorize a reduction of not more than 15 school days in that particular district to establish or maintain an alternative schedule consisting of a 12-month school program if the board of trustees demonstrates that the proposed alternative schedule for the program provides for a number of minutes of instruction that is equal to or greater than that which would be provided under a program consisting of 180 school days. Before authorizing a reduction in the number of required school days pursuant to this subsection, the Superintendent of Public Instruction must find that the proposed alternative schedule will be used to alleviate problems associated with a growth in enrollment or overcrowding.

4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize the addition of minutes of instruction to any scheduled day of free school if days of free school are lost because of any interscholastic activity. Not more than 5 days of free school so lost may be rescheduled in this manner. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to an alternative schedule approved pursuant to subsection 2.

5. The number of minutes of instruction required for a particular group of pupils in a program of instruction based on an alternative schedule approved pursuant to this section must be determined by multiplying the appropriate minimum daily period of instruction established by the State Board by regulation for that particular group of pupils by 180.

6. Each school district shall schedule at least 3 contingent days of school, or its equivalent if the school district operates under an alternative schedule authorized pursuant to this section, in addition to the number of days required by this section, which must be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within the district. *The 3 contingent days of school, or its equivalent, may be scheduled as:*

(a) Full days of school;

(b) An equivalent number of minutes of instruction added to any scheduled day of instruction, except that the minutes added must not be less than 30 minutes per school day; or

(c) Any combination thereof.

7. If more than 3 days of free school ~~[, or its]~~ *or minutes of instruction equaling 3 days of free school, or the* equivalent if the school district operates under an alternative schedule authorized pursuant to this section, are lost because a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within a school district, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, upon application by the school district, may permit the additional days *or equivalent minutes of instruction* lost to be counted as school days in session. The application must be submitted in the manner prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

8. The State Board shall adopt regulations:

(a) Providing procedures for changing schedules of instruction to be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a particular school within a school district.

(b) Defining a rural portion of a county and a remote portion of a county for the purposes of subsection 2.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

