

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2657

By Delegates Cooper, Heckert, and Toney

Introduced February 20, 2025; referred to the

Committee on Education then Finance

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18A-5-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to providing for Saturday classes for public school and public charter school students who
3 need extra assistance or who may be falling behind in his or her coursework.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. AUTHORITY; RIGHTS; RESPONSIBILITY.

§18A-5-2. Holidays; closing of schools; time lost because of such; special Saturday classes.

1 (a) Schools shall be closed on Saturdays and on the following days which are designated
2 as legal school holidays: Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day,
3 Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King's birthday, Memorial Day and West Virginia
4 Day. Schools also shall be closed on any day on which a primary election, general election or
5 special election is held throughout the state or school district and on any day appointed and set
6 apart by the president or the Governor as a holiday of special observance by the people of the
7 state.

8 (b) When any of the above designated holidays, except a special election, falls on
9 Saturday, the schools shall be closed on the preceding Friday. When any designated holiday falls
10 on Sunday, the schools shall be closed on the following Monday.

11 (c) Special classes may be conducted on Saturdays for pupils and by teachers and service
12 personnel. Saturday classes shall be conducted on a voluntary basis and teachers and service
13 personnel shall be remunerated in ratio to the regularly contracted pay. These special Saturday
14 courses shall be available to students who have fallen behind on their coursework or who need
15 extra time to complete courses to ensure passage. The West Virginia Department of Education
16 shall be responsible for the development of Saturday courses, as well as the criteria and
17 placement details for students to be in Saturday classes.

18 (d) Any school or schools may be closed by proper authorities on account of the
19 prevalence of contagious disease, conditions of weather or any other calamitous cause over

20 which the board has no control.

21 (1) Under any or all of the above provisions, the time lost by the school closings may not be
22 counted as days of employment and may not be counted as meeting a part of the requirements of
23 the minimum term of one hundred eighty days of instruction. A school employee's pay per pay
24 period may not change as a result of a school closing not being counted as a day of employment,
25 and the employee shall be paid the same amount during any pay period in which a school closing
26 occurs that the employee would have been paid during the pay period if a school closing had not
27 occurred.

28 (2) On the day or days when a school or schools are closed, county boards may provide
29 appropriate alternate work schedules for professional and service personnel affected by the
30 closing of any school or schools under any or all of the provisions of this subsection. Professional
31 and service personnel shall receive pay the same as if school were in session.

32 (3) Insofar as funds are available or can be made available during the school year, the
33 board may extend the employment term for the purpose of making up time that might affect the
34 instructional term.

35 (e) In addition to any other provisions of this chapter, the board further is authorized to
36 provide in its annual budget for meetings, workshops, vacation time or other holidays through
37 extended employment of personnel at the same rate of pay.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide for Saturday classes for public school and public charter school students who need extra assistance or who may be falling behind in his or her coursework.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading, or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.