

HB 1139 -- MANDATORY SCHOOL HOURS

SPONSOR: Cookson

Currently, school districts must schedule a minimum of 174 school days with 1,044 hours. This bill revises the requirement to be a calendar of 1,085 hours of planned attendance, with no requirement as to the number of days. The bill also defines a standard "summer school term" as no less than 144 hours with six weeks of no more than four days per week.

Summer school must not start before the second Monday in June or extend beyond the last day of July, allowing for a July fourth holiday of four days. The regular school term must not open before September first or extend beyond the last day of May.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must provide a testing window for statewide assessments that allows the results to be received in time for determining if a student will be required to attend summer school. School districts must require students who score less than proficient on a statewide assessment to attend summer school; districts must also develop a summer school teacher selection policy that describes objective qualifications for summer school employment.

The bill repeals some restrictions on the length of the school day and repeals the provisions that prescribe how a district may undertake a four-day school week.

The bill becomes effective July 1, 2015.