

SENATE FILE NO. SF0002

Required school week.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Erb

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to schools; providing for a required school
2 week; restricting cocurricular activities; providing for
3 minimum school hours; granting rulemaking authority;
4 conforming provisions; and providing for an effective date.

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6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-4-301 and 21-9-101(e) are amended
9 to read:

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11 **21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all**
12 **children; minimum school year.**

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14 Except as otherwise provided by law, the public schools of
15 each school district in the state shall at all times be
16 equally free and accessible to all children resident
17 therein of five (5) years of age as of September 15 of the

1 applicable school year and under the age of twenty-one
2 (21), subject to regulations of the board of trustees. Each
3 school district shall operate its schools and its classes
4 for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five (175) days each
5 school year and for a minimum number of hours each day as
6 established by rule of the state board unless an
7 alternative schedule has been approved by the state board.
8 Prior to submission of a proposed alternative schedule to
9 the state board, the board of trustees shall hold at least
10 two (2) advertised public meetings within the district, at
11 which the board shall present the proposed alternative
12 schedule and respond to public questions and comments. Any
13 school district operating under an alternative schedule
14 shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of that schedule
15 in meeting the educational goals and purposes for which the
16 schedule was adopted. Cocurricular activity programs as
17 described under W.S. 21-9-101(e) shall not be offered by
18 the district until after the minimum number of state board
19 required school hours on Monday through Thursday of any of
20 the minimum one hundred seventy-five (175) teacher-pupil
21 contact days required by this section. Cocurricular
22 activity programs may be scheduled on any Friday of any of
23 the minimum one hundred seventy-five (175) teacher-pupil
24 contact days.

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2 **21-9-101. Educational programs for schools;**
3 **standards; core of knowledge and skills; special needs**
4 **programs; class size requirements; cocurricular activities.**

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6 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
7 prohibit school districts from establishing cocurricular
8 activity programs which have as their purpose to provide
9 educational experiences not otherwise provided by the local
10 district. The legislature specifically encourages school
11 districts to establish programs of this type, subject to
12 the limitations of W.S. 21-4-301 and rules of the state
13 board adopted pursuant to that section.

14

15 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

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(END)