

SENATE FILE NO. SF0072

Summer vacation preservation act.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Brennan, Biteman, Landen, Olsen  
and Rothfuss and Representative(s) Andrew,  
Angelos, Banks, Rodriguez-Williams and  
Wasserburger

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; modifying the duties of the  
2 state board of education in approval of alternative  
3 scheduling for a school year; reducing the minimum number  
4 of class days required for public schools; reducing the  
5 number of professional development days for public schools  
6 as specified; requiring the school year to begin after  
7 Labor Day and recess prior to Memorial Day except as  
8 specified; specifying legislative intent; and providing for  
9 an effective date.

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

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13 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-2-304(b)(viii), 21-4-301(a) and  
14 21-13-307(a)(ii)(intro) are amended to read:

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2           **21-2-304. Duties of the state board of education.**

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4           (b) In addition to subsection (a) of this section and  
5 any other duties assigned to it by law, the state board  
6 shall:

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8                       (viii) Approve or disapprove alternative  
9 scheduling for school districts requesting to commence a  
10 school year before Labor Day, to recess a school year after  
11 Memorial Day or to operate for fewer than ~~one hundred~~  
12 ~~seventy-five (175)~~ one hundred sixty-five (165) days in a  
13 school year, but no schedule shall be approved which  
14 reduces the minimum pupil-teacher contact time defined by  
15 the state board. The state board shall establish by rule  
16 for grades kindergarten through twelve (12) minimum  
17 pupil-teacher contact time requirements, which may include  
18 instruction outside of the physical classroom through  
19 virtual education or other equivalent methods the state  
20 board deems appropriate;

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22           **21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all**  
23 **children; minimum school year.**

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2 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, the public  
3 schools of each school district in the state shall at all  
4 times be equally free and accessible to all children  
5 resident therein of five (5) years of age as of August 1,  
6 or September 15 if pursuant to an approved request under  
7 W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xxxviii), of the year in which they may  
8 register in kindergarten as provided in W.S. 21-4-302(b)  
9 and under the age of twenty-one (21), subject to  
10 regulations of the board of trustees. Each school year  
11 shall commence after Labor Day and recess not later than  
12 Memorial Day in the immediately succeeding calendar year  
13 unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the  
14 state board. Each school district shall operate its schools  
15 and its classes for a minimum of ~~one hundred seventy-five~~  
16 ~~(175)~~ one hundred sixty-five (165) days each school year  
17 unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the  
18 state board. Prior to submission of a proposed alternative  
19 schedule to the state board, the board of trustees shall  
20 hold at least two (2) advertised public meetings within the  
21 district, at which the board shall present the proposed  
22 alternative schedule and respond to public questions and  
23 comments. Any school district operating under an

1 alternative schedule shall annually evaluate the  
2 effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the educational  
3 goals and purposes for which the schedule was adopted.

4

5 **21-13-307. Eligibility to share in distribution of**  
6 **money from foundation account; mandatory financial**  
7 **reporting.**

8

9 (a) Each district which meets the following  
10 requirements is eligible to share in the distribution of  
11 funds from the foundation account:

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13 (ii) Operated all schools for a term of at least  
14 ~~one hundred eighty five (185)~~ one hundred seventy days  
15 (170) days or the number of days or equivalent hours  
16 authorized under an alternative schedule approved by the  
17 state board during the previous school year. If the school  
18 term of any school in a district was less than ~~one hundred~~  
19 ~~eighty five (185)~~ one hundred seventy days (170) days or  
20 less than the total number of days authorized under an  
21 alternative schedule approved by the state board, the  
22 amount allotted per average daily membership (ADM) under  
23 W.S. 21-13-309 for the school shall be in proportion to the

