

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1851 Session of
1989

INTRODUCED BY FLICK, PITTS, DISTLER, HECKLER, FARGO, FOX AND
E. Z. TAYLOR, SEPTEMBER 18, 1989

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, SEPTEMBER 18, 1989

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," further providing for the minimum
6 number of school days.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 1501 of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
11 amended June 30, 1980 (P.L.279, No.80), is amended to read:

12 Section 1501. Minimum Number of Days; School Month.--(a)
13 All public kindergartens, elementary and secondary schools shall
14 be kept open each school year for at least one hundred eighty
15 (180) days of instruction for pupils. No days on which the
16 schools are closed shall be counted as days taught, and no time
17 shall be counted as a pupil session for any activity to which
18 admission is charged. No school district shall be required to
19 change its graduation schedule or require graduating students to

1 return to school after graduation to make up class days lost due
2 to severe weather conditions or, in the school year 1979-1980
3 for situations beyond the control of the school district as a
4 result of major construction and renovation to the school
5 building. No district which makes a bona fide effort as
6 determined by the Secretary of Education to provide one hundred
7 eighty (180) days of instruction for graduating students shall
8 receive less subsidy payments or reimbursements than it would
9 otherwise be entitled to receive on account of the school year
10 because of the provisions of this section. Unless otherwise
11 provided by this act, the board of school directors in any
12 district or joint board may keep such other schools or
13 departments as it may establish open during such time as it may
14 direct.

15 (b) In the event it appears that a school district will not
16 be able to keep schools open in any school year for a minimum of
17 one hundred eighty (180) days of instruction for pupils as a
18 result of a work stoppage, the Secretary of Education may
19 petition the court of common pleas in which jurisdiction lies to
20 issue an order to terminate the work stoppage. The Secretary of
21 Education shall assist the school district in providing one
22 hundred eighty (180) days of instruction by June 30 of the
23 school year in which the work stoppage took place.

24 (c) Twenty days of actual teaching shall constitute a school
25 month.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.