

2017 -- H 5162

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - EMERGENCY REDUCTION OF SCHOOL YEAR

Introduced By: Representatives Fellela, Lima, Messier, Ucci, and Serpa

Date Introduced: January 19, 2017

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-2-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-2 entitled "School
2 Committees and Superintendents [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of
3 Education Act]" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **16-2-3. Emergency reduction of school year.**

5 (a) In the event of any emergency brought about by the incidence of any epidemic or the
6 threat of an epidemic or any emergency which may endanger the health of children or the
7 physical well being of the community, the school committee of any city or town, with the
8 approval of the board of regents for elementary and secondary education, may reduce the number
9 of school days to not less than one hundred seventy (170) days; provided, that the compensation
10 of teachers, janitors, clerks, and other employees in the public schools of the city or town shall
11 not be reduced by reason of the shortening of the school year.

12 (b) In the event that school is cancelled due to a state of emergency declared by the
13 governor in accordance with §30-15-9, the number of required school days pursuant to §16-2-2
14 shall be reduced by the number of days school was cancelled due to the declaration of the state of
15 emergency.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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RELATING TO EDUCATION - EMERGENCY REDUCTION OF SCHOOL YEAR

1 This act would provide that when the governor declares a state of emergency requiring
2 the closing of schools, the lost day would not be made up at the end of the school year.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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