



2020 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 188

Introduced by: **Senator Brock Greenfield** at the request of the Office of the Governor

1 **An Act to account for educational opportunities provided to students during a state**
 2 **of emergency and to declare an emergency.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1.** That § 13-26-1 be AMENDED:

5 **13-26-1. School fiscal year--Local board to set length of school term, day**
 6 **and week--Number of hours in school term.**

7 The school fiscal year shall begin July first and end June thirtieth. Each local school
 8 board shall set the number of days in a school term, the length of a school day, and
 9 the number of school days in a school week. The local school board or governing body
 10 shall establish the number of hours in the school term for kindergarten programs,
 11 which may not be less than four hundred thirty-seven and one-half hours. The number
 12 of hours in the school term for grades one through five may not be less than eight
 13 hundred seventy-five hours, exclusive of intermissions. The number of hours in the
 14 school term for grades six through twelve may not be less than nine hundred sixty-
 15 two and one-half hours, exclusive of intermissions. An intermission is the time when
 16 ~~pupils~~ students are at recess or lunch and for grades six through twelve, the passing
 17 time between classes.

18 The minimum number of hours required in this section may be waived by the
 19 secretary if the Governor or the President of the United States declares a state of
 20 emergency and the affected school is located within the area to which the state of
 21 emergency is applicable. The Department of Education shall monitor emergency-
 22 related school closures and provide updates to the schools.

23 When a school must remain closed due to a declared state of emergency, the school
 24 district shall forward to the Department of Education, at the time and in the manner
 25 requested by the department, a listing of educational opportunities that were provided

1 to the students during the closure. The department shall consider the nature and scope
2 of the opportunities that were provided during the ensuing accreditation cycle.

3 **Section 2.** This Act is repealed on July 1, 2021.

4 **Section 3.** Whereas, this Act is necessary for the support of the state government and its
5 existing public institutions, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall be in
6 full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.