

---

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATION TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the furlough days negotiated for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years are an unacceptable solution to the budgetary shortfall. Although other states face similar or worse budgetary situations, Hawaii has become the state with the fewest number of days of classroom instruction as a result of the furloughs. **The legislature further finds that establishing a mandatory minimum number of classroom instructional hours per school year,** which many states have already implemented, would raise the standard of, and reflect a commitment to, quality education for Hawaii's children.

**Deleted:** The legislature further finds that establishing a mandatory minimum number of days of classroom instruction per school year

**In 2004, Hawaii passed Act 51: Reinventing Education. Part VI: Students, Section 34 reads "Ultimately, all education reform must be driven by the needs of the students. Students are the**

**primary clients served by the public education system and they must be served well by providing them with access to the tools they need to succeed, a nurturing environment, conducive to learning, and supplementary opportunities for growth that facilitate their development.**

The purpose of this Act is to require all public schools, including charter schools, **to implement a minimum of one thousand eighty instructional hours for elementary schools and not less than one thousand two hundred sixty instructional hours for secondary schools.**

**Deleted:** to implement a minimum of two hundred days of classroom instruction or an equivalent number of instructional hours per school year

SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"§302A- Minimum number of classroom instruction days; public schools.**

**(a.) A Definition of "Instructional Hours"**

**"Instructional hours" as used here means "time during the school day which is devoted to instruction and activities provided as an integral part of the school program." Instructional time would include, but not be limited to, activities such as testing, counseling, field trips, assemblies, up to 10 hours of parent-teacher conference, early dismissal for emergencies. Instructional time would exclude lunch, recess, homeroom,**

**passing time, faculty, departmental, grade level, and curriculum meetings, professional development or inservice days.**

Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all public schools shall

implement **a school calendar that provides not less than one**

**thousand eighty instructional hours for elementary schools and**

**not less than one thousand two hundred and sixty instructional**

**hours for secondary schools per school year. The total number**

**of instructional hours shall not include state holidays provided**

by law, professional development days, and other non-

instructional days negotiated pursuant to chapter 89."

**Deleted:** a school calendar that provides not less than

**Deleted:** two hundred days of classroom instruction, or an equivalent number of instructional hours, per school year. The two hundred days of classroom instruction, or an equivalent number of instructional hours, shall not include

SECTION 3. Chapter 302B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"§302B- Minimum number of classroom instruction**

**days; charter schools. Notwithstanding any other law to**

**the contrary, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all**

**charter schools shall implement a school calendar that**

**provides not less *one thousand eighty instructional hours for***

**elementary schools and not less than *one thousand two hundred***

**and sixty instructional hours for secondary schools per school**

**year. The total number of instructional hours shall not <sup>include</sup> state**

**Deleted:** than two hundred days of classroom instruction, or an equivalent number of instructional hours, per school year. The two hundred days of classroom instruction, or an equivalent number of instructional hours, shall not include

holidays provided by law, professional development days, and other non-instructional days negotiated pursuant to chapter 89 or section 302B-9."

SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.

SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 6. **This Act shall apply to all elementary, middle or intermediate, and high schools including charter schools and takes effect beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.**

**Deleted:** This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2099.†