1 State of Arkansas

2 94th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2023

HOUSE BILL 1781

4

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry

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7 ## For An Act To Be Entitled

8   AN ACT TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAYS

9   APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF ELEMENTARY AND

10   SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE

11   METHODS OF INSTRUCTION; TO CLARIFY THAT STUDENT

12   ATTENDANCE DAYS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF

13   ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF

14   ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION SHALL COUNT

15   TOWARDS THE ON-SITE, IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION DAYS FOR

16   WHICH A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL BE OPEN; AND FOR

17   OTHER PURPOSES.

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20   ## Subtitle

21   CONCERNING STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAYS

22   APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF

23   ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR

24   THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF

25   INSTRUCTION.

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28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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30   SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-127(b)(1), concerning the use of

31 alternative methods of instruction, is amended to read as follows:

32   (b)(1)(A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may

33 grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) five (5) student attendance days for

34 public school districts that have an alternative instruction plan approved by

35 the commissioner for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including

36 without limitation virtual learning, on days when the public school district

1   is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as:

2   ~~(A)~~(i)   A contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather,

3   or other acts of God; or

4   ~~(B)~~(ii)   A utility outage.

5   (B)   The student attendance days approved by the

6   commissioner under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section for the use of

7   alternative methods of instruction shall count towards the number of on-site,

8   in-person instruction days for which a public school district shall be open

9   as required by law or Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rule.

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