By Representatives Barton and Ison
RFD: Education Policy
First Read: 03-MAR-11

126696-1:n:03/03/2011:KMS/tan LRS2011-1048

SYNOPSIS: Existing state law does not provide statewide school start and end dates for public elementary and secondary schools.

This bill would specify August 22 as the earliest date that academic instruction may begin and the Friday before Memorial Day as the latest day of instruction in a public elementary or secondary school.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public elementary and secondary education; to specify the annual date upon which academic instruction may begin as August 22 and the annual day upon which academic instruction shall end as the Friday before Memorial Day. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the School Start and End Date Act of 2011.
(b) Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, no elementary or secondary school under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education may begin a new academic year of instruction for students before August 22. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if August 22 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, academic instruction for students may begin on the Monday immediately following August 22.
(c) Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the latest day of the academic year of instruction for an elementary or secondary school under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education shall be the Friday immediately before Memorial Day.

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

