F1

5lr1310 CF 5lr0678

By: Delegates Healey, D. Barnes, Beidle, Beitzel, Carozza, Chang, Fennell, Frush, Gaines, Ghrist, Glass, Glenn, Haynes, Long, Miele, Otto, Parrott, Sophocleus, Walker, and A. Washington

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning			
2	Education – Beginning of School Year – After Labor Day			
3	FOR the purpose of prohibiting public schools and publicly funded prekindergarten			
4 5	programs from opening for pupil attendance before the day after Labor Day; and generally relating to the beginning of the school year after Labor Day.			
6	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,			
7	Article – Education			
8	Section 7–103			
9	Annotated Code of Maryland			
10	(2014 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)			
11	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND			
12	That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:			
13	Article - Education			
14	7–103.			
15	(a) Except as provided in subsections (b), (e), and (f) of this section, each public			
16	school under the jurisdiction of a county board:			
17	(1) (i) Shall be open for pupil attendance for at least 180 actual school			
18	days and a minimum of 1,080 school hours during a 10–month period in each school year			
19	or			
20	(ii) If normal school attendance is prevented because of conditions			

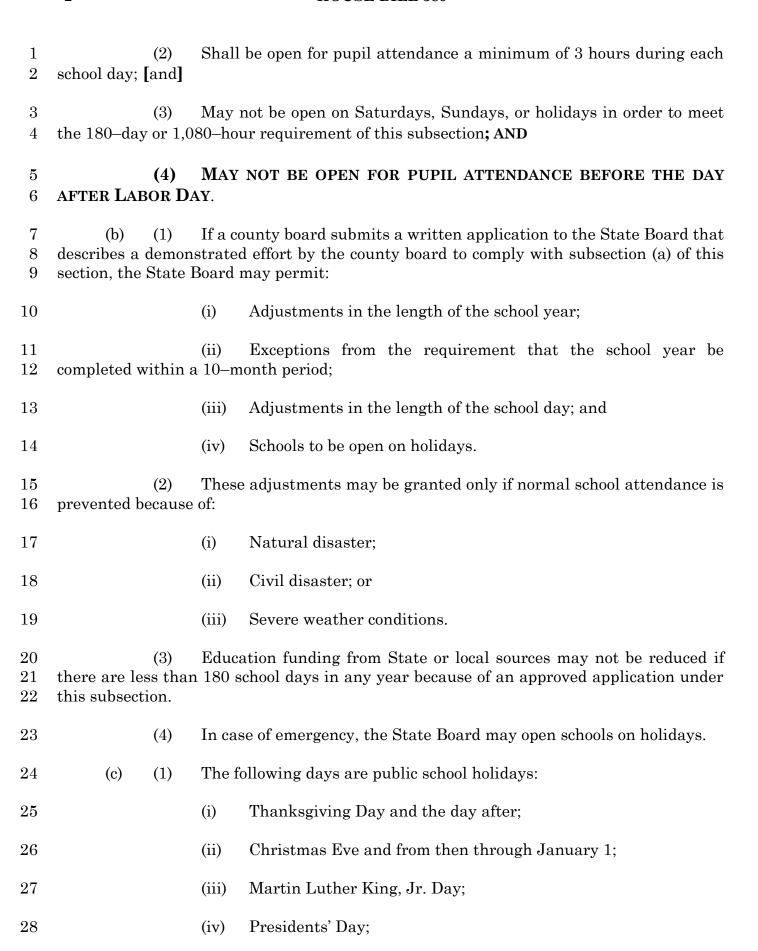
described in subsection (b) of this section, shall be open for at least 1,080 hours during a

21

22

10-month period;





$\frac{1}{2}$	after Easter;	(v)	The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday	
3		(vi)	Memorial Day; and	
4		(vii)	Primary and general election days.	
5 6 7	(2) If the federal and State observances of a holiday are on different days the board of education of each county shall determine which date shall be the date of observance for the public schools within the county.			
8 9	(3) The public schools shall devote a part of the day to appropriate exercises for the following days:			
10		(i)	Washington's Birthday;	
11		(ii)	Lincoln's Birthday;	
12		(iii)	Veterans' Day;	
13		(iv)	Columbus Day;	
14		(v)	Arbor Day; and	
15		(vi)	Any other day of national significance.	
16 17 18	in the following counties, may remain open and in session on primary and general election			
19		(i)	Calvert;	
20		(ii)	Caroline;	
21		(iii)	Dorchester;	
22		(iv)	Kent;	
23		(v)	Talbot; and	
24		(vi)	Worcester.	
25 26	(d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, the State Board shall divide the school year into the terms it considers appropriate.			

HOUSE BILL 389

- 1 (e) (1) The county boards of Allegany, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Howard, 2 Montgomery, and Prince George's counties, and the Board of School Commissioners of 3 Baltimore City, may elect to operate one or more schools within the county or Baltimore 4 City on a year-round basis, provided that the 180-day and the minimum hour 5 requirements under this section are met.
- 6 (2) Nothing in this section precludes a county board from conducting a year—round pilot study or program that is funded by the county board.
- 8 (f) [Publicly] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A)(4) OF THIS** 9 **SECTION, PUBLICLY** funded prekindergarten programs are not subject to the 10 requirements of subsection (a) of this section.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2015.