

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0027

School year-required contact hours.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Gingery, McOmie and  
Steward and Senator(s) Coe

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; modifying the minimum school  
2 year contact hours as specified; and providing for an  
3 effective date.

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5 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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7 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-2-304(b)(viii) and 21-4-301 are  
8 amended to read:

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10 **21-2-304. Duties of the state board of education.**

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12 (b) In addition to subsection (a) of this section and  
13 any other duties assigned to it by law, the state board  
14 shall:

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1 (viii) Approve or disapprove alternative  
2 scheduling for school districts requesting to operate for  
3 fewer than one hundred seventy-five (175) days in school  
4 year, but no schedule shall be approved which reduces the  
5 pupil-teacher contact time defined by the state board below  
6 the minimum specified by W.S. 21-4-301;

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8 **21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all**  
9 **children; minimum school year.**

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11 Except as otherwise provided by law, the public schools of  
12 each school district in the state shall at all times be  
13 equally free and accessible to all children resident  
14 therein of five (5) years of age as of September 15 of the  
15 applicable school year and under the age of twenty-one  
16 (21), subject to regulations of the board of trustees.

17 Unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the  
18 state board, each school district shall operate its schools  
19 and its classes for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five  
20 (175) days with minimum number of contact hours of one  
21 thousand one hundred thirty-one (1,131) total hours for  
22 high school students, one thousand eighty (1,080) total  
23 hours for middle and junior high school students and nine  
24 hundred twenty-six (926) total hours for elementary

1 students, each school year. ~~unless an alternative schedule~~  
2 ~~has been approved by the state board.~~ Prior to submission  
3 of a proposed alternative schedule to the state board, the  
4 board of trustees shall hold at least two (2) advertised  
5 public meetings within the district, at which the board  
6 shall present the proposed alternative schedule and respond  
7 to public questions and comments. Any school district  
8 operating under an alternative schedule shall annually  
9 evaluate the effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the  
10 educational goals and purposes for which the schedule was  
11 adopted.

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13 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2011.

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(END)