

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Demmer and others

Subject: Increasing the length of the school year; repealing the Labor Day school start date

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Overview

Under current law, a school district calendar for student instruction must at least be equal in length to the 1996-1997 calendar. In addition, school districts generally are prohibited from beginning the school year before Labor Day. This bill, beginning in fiscal year 2009, proposes to gradually increase the length of the school calendar to 200 instructional days and 30 noninstructional days. It also proposed to repeal the prohibition against starting public school before Labor Day.

Section

- 1** **Length of the school year; days of instruction.** (a) Requires a school board's calendar through the 2007 fiscal year to at least equal the number of student instruction days the board formally adopted for the 1996-1997 school year.

(b) Requires the fiscal year 2008 school board calendar to include at least 180 days of student instruction and 10 noninstructional days. Annually increases the school calendar by five student instruction days and five noninstructional days beginning in fiscal year 2009 until the annual school calendar includes at least 200 student instruction days and 30 noninstructional days.
- 2** **Repealer.** Repeals for fiscal year 2008 and later the statutory prohibition (Minn. Stat. § 120A.40) against public schools starting before Labor Day.