



HR0244HAM001

LRB101 11802 MST 60243 a

1                                    AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 244

2                    AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Resolution 244 by replacing  
3 everything after the heading with the following:

4                    "WHEREAS, The Illinois School Code provides that each  
5 school board is required to annually prepare a calendar for  
6 each school term that specifies both the opening and closing  
7 dates of the term; and

8                    WHEREAS, A school district's calendar must provide for a  
9 minimum of at least 185 days that generally includes five  
10 emergency days and four teacher institute days in order to  
11 ensure 176 days of actual pupil attendance; and

12                    WHEREAS, While the School Code does not govern when a  
13 school term should begin or end, schools are increasingly  
14 starting their school year in mid-August; and

1           WHEREAS, Traditionally, especially prior to the mid-1990s,  
2 schools would begin their school term after Labor Day,  
3 according to a 2015 CNN article, "Back to school: Why August is  
4 the new September"; and

5           WHEREAS, Some states, including Michigan and Maryland,  
6 have implemented prohibitions on school terms beginning before  
7 Labor Day in an effort to boost their tourism industries; and

8           WHEREAS, Maryland Governor Larry Hogan recently signed an  
9 executive order prohibiting schools from commencing their  
10 school term prior to Labor Day unless the school district has  
11 received a waiver; and

12           WHEREAS, Research shows that the date upon which a school  
13 term begins does not necessarily impact a student's academic  
14 success; therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
16 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
17 we urge the Illinois State Board of Education to study the  
18 impact of beginning a school term during various points  
19 throughout August as compared to after Labor Day; and be it  
20 further

21           RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education submit a report

1 to the General Assembly by December 31, 2019 including the  
2 following information:

3 (1) A summary of current school term start dates in  
4 school districts throughout Illinois; and

5 (2) Laws in other states that govern when a school term  
6 may commence; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 delivered to the State Superintendent of Education.